

The Grange.

[The Rural World welcomes to the Grange Department communications from Missouri and all parts of the Mississippi Valley from members of the order. Brief notes of what is going on in the order, or any matters pertaining to it will be cheerfully published.]

Official Grange Paper.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Missouri State Grange, held in the city of St. Louis on the 3d day of December, 1880—all the members being present—it was agreed to accept the proposition, submitted by Col. Norman J. Colman, for publishing the official Grange communications in the RURAL WORLD during the two ensuing years.

M. Coffey,

Secretary of Executive Committee.

Knob Noster, Mo., December 6, 1880.

Rolla State Grange Resolutions.

The Missouri State Grange, at its late session at Rolla, unanimously adopted the following:

Whereas, COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD was one of the first papers in Missouri to espouse the Grange cause, and to urge the farmers of the State to organize themselves into Granges; and

Whereas, It has ever been the faithful, earnest and consistent friend of the Grange and of the agricultural classes of the State, seasonably laboring to advance every agricultural interest and to elevate the profession of agriculture to a higher standard; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Missouri State Grange cordially indorses COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD and recommends it to the support of the Patrons of Husbandry of the State of Missouri.

The Grange.

While it is undoubtedly the first and the foremost object of the Grange to obtain commercial advantages or combinations, an object which among the great majority of our members is still the main if not the sole consideration, it is important to note and bear in mind some other benefits which the Grange institution is calculated to confer. In the struggle for daily bread for the economic interests of life, we are too apt to make it an absorbing passion and thus develop the most selfish impulses and ambitions. Dollars and cents seems to be the main aim and effort of society. Mammon-worshiping has become not simply a mad devotion, and unscrupulous pursuit but a positive disease. Witness the pale, care-worn faces of those who are vainly striving for position, the early "agedness" of many an over-worked though successful man, and the lean hungry souls of those who are wedded to gold. Such instances should warn us of the danger of looking only to material interests, beacon-lights to apprise of perilous rocks. Beyond buying and selling and the accumulation of wealth we have a duty to ourselves as well as to society to say nothing of higher matters; and we Patrons of Husbandry need this lesson read to us just as well as other classes of the community. Weas husbandmen, may be subjected to less temptation in this respect, but we cannot claim exemption from this moral taint, yet if true to the principles of our order we shall rise more above it. The spirit of our constitution, if we get filled with it, will lift us to a noble elevation. Now every farmer, while he should be diligent in his occupation, laying hold of every chance to benefit his worldly lot, should at the same time seek to advance in all that would give dignity and influence to his position and character. He may possess a good farm, he may boast of a fine homestead, but this should not constitute his world of thought, the circle of his sympathies or the bounds of his ambition. If he, by hard persistent, careful work has created these circumstances, he has that in him which will enable him to go yet onward to reach a yet nobler existence. The Grange steps in here to teach and help him. It not only assists him in buying and selling but it brings him into a closer contact with his neighbors which is fraught with many advantages. It is not saying too much to say there is a social, mental and moral good in it. In the union of aim and effort, provided it is conceived and carried on in a right spirit, new sympathies and better feelings are awakened, and thus many a neighbor who heretofore was thought to be reserved and churlish has been found to be unselfish, kindly and helpful. A brotherhood of feeling is the natural result of a brotherhood of action. We get out of the nut-shell of self, we look beyond our lands, we recognize a friend and a brother, we are neighbors, we meet together to chat, to transact business and the flimsy barriers of denominationalism and partisanship which existed between us sink out of sight. The playful allusion takes the place of the ill-humored taunt and mutual good will is established. Then this co-operative effort is extremely beneficial in an intellectual sense. We meet together not only to transact business but also to discuss matters pertaining to husbandry, etc. It is thus that one becomes possessed of the knowledge of all. Old worn out notions and methods are relinquished for those which thoughtful experience has discovered to be better. Minds are more stirred to think, and with the imparting of knowledge comes a greater facility of speech and desire to know. This will gradually raise the farmer to a worthier level. He will think for himself and be enabled intelligently to set forth his ideas. Farmers are the backbone and sinew of the country and if true to themselves and to each other, as the Grange seeks in all its arrangements to inculcate, they will assume an intelligence and power which will be a blessing to the land, and invest agriculture with the most interesting attractions. Then we shall see less of that spirit of suspicion and distrust so prevalent now amongst us, that unsocial spirit which too often leads to the unjust thought and the harsh word, while there will be a less susceptibility of being imposed upon, there will be less of trickery, meanness, and a desire to benefit from another's ignorance. Truth and honor will more conspicuously mark the character and conduct of producer and dealer. Let us then brethren stand firm to our noble order which seeks in this manner and to this degree to influence and mould us. Let us defend its principles rather by a uniform

good will and good sense than by loud arguments. Let us exhibit ourselves a compact and harmonious body. Let us not be satisfied with just its mere monetary value to us. Let us strive after the full advantages it is designed to bestow and charge ourselves with all its purposes complete, making up our minds that henceforth we will no longer be one-sided or half-hearted.—Com.

To Be or Not to Be!

An essay written for the reorganization of Lexington Grange

No doubt this question has been agitated in your Grange, as it has in almost every other Grange—whether you should live, or whether you should die; and each time with a weakening effect. It goes as an arrow straight to the heart of your little band. There are on record instances of persons dying from imaginary causes, and thus it is with this Grange; most of your trouble is imaginary, but fortunately, you did not die. You have only been dormant—sleeping, resting to gather new strength and vigor—but such long naps are very dangerous and often work great harm. The caterpillar winds itself up in its shroud and makes its own tomb, and when it has remained in that condition its appointed time, it bursts forth, a new and lovely creature. This Grange has been called dead, but that cannot be. Granges do not die; but often they languish from bad material or some other hindering cause. The vital spark has only been smouldering till now it threatens to burst forth with a flame stronger and more brilliant than ever before. And if you will only receive the lump of leaven which Bro. Teague will today leave with you, and be sure to keep it warm by keeping up your regular meetings, you will be surprised to see how it will grow and expand; and after a while it will run over till your Grange hall cannot contain it all, but you will have to build a Grange co-operative house to store some of it in; only keep it warm, Patrons, and there will be no trouble.

Never allow this vital question of life and death to be discussed in your Grange hall again, for it makes even the strongest members feel weak. Who among us has not, at times, gone to the Grange feeling buoyant and hopeful, as if he wanted to do his duty? When the question has been revived have you not felt your ardor cool, as if there was no use trying? If you specify a time to die you shall surely die, and that by your own hand. Patrons, now is the time to rally; look not at the past, but press forward to the future. You cannot remedy the past but the future is at your bidding. Your career so far, it is true, has been of little import, but take courage and grow, both in numbers and interest. Let each strive to do his or her duty, and thus the whole duty will be performed.

Let us be encouraged when we remember that the Order is yet in its infancy; it has not yet attained to the strength of youth, but the gradual revelation of its germinal principles is taking place through the genial warmth of friends and amid the blasts of hostile circumstances. The effects upon the landscape are readily observed by those who are watching its interests. The farmer commits his seed to the earth and it passes from his sight and control, but there rests not the shadow of a doubt upon his mind that in due season it will spring up and bear fruit to reward his labor and trust. And thus it is with each subordinate Grange. We are seeds which will germinate and grow, and strengthen our noble Order. It has been said that the subordinate Granges are the life blood of our system, and give to it all its power, moral and active, and when one of these sources of light and power fails the head and heart feel it.

You may not realize at once, nor for a time, the advantage you hoped for and which must come in due time if you persevere, but bear in mind the general good to our class and country already accomplished, and the largely greater benefits we may secure individually and collectively. Be united and our success will be assured. Power and superiority are the rightful attributes of our class; not weakness or dependence. Then, Patrons, let us put our shoulder to the wheel with renewed energy and strength and move on in solid columns to the enemy's works, feeling that there is strength in union. Keep up your regular meetings; be punctual in attendance, prompt in your actions, honest in your dealing, and charitable in your intercourse with your fellow men.

And sisters, there is a work for you. Be ever ready with words of comfort and cheer; bear up the hands of your tired and foot-sore brothers, remember that they have borne the burden and heat of the day. Let Ceres never fail to bring in her golden grain, and may Pomona ever breathe her fresh young breath on the gardens and orchards, and beautiful "Flora come forth with her blossoming train, to gladden the earth as her holy domain." If our Order should, according to the prediction of a disinterested few, die out after a short life, it will restore to the soil from whence it came, the elements of vitality that will enrich it, and the seeds from which will spring a more vigorous growth of its principles. Words and deeds, when launched upon the stream of time, are borne down upon the ever widening channel into the ocean of eternity. May our beloved Order never grow old, but when generation after generation has passed away to be forgotten, may this Order rejoice in eternal youth, and may this pleasant prairie still rebound to be happy voices of Patrons, and may these lovely trees still droop their branches as if in benediction over them.—Texas Farmer.

The Anti-Monopolist

We open a new department in the RURAL WORLD, styled the Anti-Monopolist. The monopolists of the country are combining against the people. They are filling our Legislative halls and Congress with their willing instruments. They are even packing the Supreme Court of the United States with judges who have been lifelong paid agents. Unless the people organize against them their rights and liberties are gone. Let the people not only of Missouri, but of every state organize Anti-Monopoly leagues. Unless they soon do this it will be too late. The Anti-Monopolists ask for special privileges for themselves. All they want is to be let alone and to have no special privileges granted to others. They want the great combinations of corporate capital to keep their grip off the government. They want those to make and administer our laws who are in sympathy with the people and not the tools of capital.

The bench of the Supreme Court of the United States is being very snugly packed in the interests of railroads. Bradley, Strong and Matthews owe their seats to railroad influence. The divisions in the State Supreme Courts in what were known as the Granger case, will yet be overturned, and the U. S. Supreme Court is to be set up in such manner as not to allow any decisions to be made in opposition to railroad greed. The whole government is getting into the hands of the money power. A large portion of the Senate owe their election to railroad, manufacturing and National Bank influence. Lapham, recently elected Senator of N. Y., was an old railroad lawyer, and had the support of the combined railroads of the state. Warner Miller, the other Senator elected from that state, is the king monopolist of the state, taxing for his own private interest every book and newspaper in the state and boldly telling other high protective tariff men that unless they stand by him in protecting his monopoly in wood pulp he will tear down their monopoly houses. So every voter in the United States is taxed that Warner Miller may grow rich and obtain a seat in the United States Senate. Verily, it looks to us as though everything was going to the bad. The people's interests are left out in the cold. The money power has hold, and a tight hold, of all the reins of government. The farmers and laborers of the country must be content to remain the "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

Sermons in Brief.

Great bodies move slowly, and the public is slower than monopolizing corporations. But a time may be conceived of, nay, even may be predicted, when the public will become swifter than corporations, and when those corporations may not only be caught up with, but even ground to powder by the public wrath.—N. Y. Evening Post.

Your cause is just, but in such a contest you grapple with giants. Do not underestimate the power or the skill of your antagonists. Wise and conservative counsels will alone secure success. You must be as prompt to concede rights as you are determined in demanding them. No agrarian or communistic spirit must find place in your proceedings.—William Windom.

Examples of the injury suffered by the people, and the loss of the government's ability to protect the people's rights, are not wanting. Railway and telegraph companies become singly powerful, or powerful by the combination of two or three or more companies, the combination being made expressly to prevent healthy competition, and thus create a monopoly which shall be able to tax commerce and industry as it may please.—Harper's Weekly.

If we ever have a conflict between capital and labor in this country, it will be because of the injustice done the masses by corporate monopolies. It therefore behooves all classes of citizens to sustain the efforts made by reasonable and intelligent citizens to limit the power of men who, to use the words of a committee of the United States Senate, "recognize no principle of action but personal and corporate aggrandizement."—N. Y. Daily Graphic.

The four great railroads operating between the east and west have lately become a confederacy, and they call themselves the "confederated railroads," and have adopted a constitution for their own government. They can and do put up or put down the rates. Their agreement to combine for the putting up of rates and charges is criminal in its character, and has been so held and declared in the courts of England, and under the law, they should be convicted and imprisoned for it.—Judge Jere Black.

The evil is deep seated, and it requires sharp, active, courageous treatment. An honest Legislature of trustworthiness, chosen to recover for the people the powers now wielded by monopolies, would remedy the evil in a short session. But such a legislature will not be chosen until the voters are wide-awake to the danger, and so wide-awake that they will make personal selection of their candidates, choosing them as they would choose men to take care of their fortunes—men whom they know, and know they can trust.—Harper's Weekly.

How DID THEY GET IT?—The following are recent estimates of the suddenly accumulated wealth of a few men: Jay Gould & Co. \$75,000,000 in 15 years; the Vanderbilts, \$100,000,000, 20 years; Huntington, Hopkins & Co. the Central Pacific syndicate, \$18,000,000 in 15 years, (from an investment of \$12,500). Congressman Daggett, Feb. 21 1881.

Rescued from Death.

The following statement of William J. Coughlin, of Somerville, Mass., is so remarkable that we beg to ask for the attention of our readers. He says: In the fall of 1876 I was taken with a violent bleeding of the lungs followed by a severe cough. I soon began to lose my appetite and flesh. I was so weak at one time that I could not leave my bed. In the summer of 1877 I was admitted to the City Hospital. While there, the doctors said I had a hole in my left lung as big as a half dollar. I expended over a hundred dollars in doctors and medicines. I was so far gone at one time a report went around I was dead. I gave up hope, but a friend told me of DR. WILLIAM HALL'S BALM FOR THE LUNGS. I laughed at my friends, thinking that my case was incurable, but I got a bottle to satisfy them, when to my surprise and gratification I commenced to feel better. My hope, once dead, began to revive, and to day I feel in better spirits than I have the past three years.

"I write this hoping you will publish it, so that every one afflicted with Diseased Lungs will be induced to take DR. WM. HALL'S BALM FOR THE LUNGS, and be convinced that CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED. I have taken two bottles and can positively say that it had done more good than all the other medicines I have taken since my sickness. My cough has almost entirely disappeared and I shall soon be able to go to work." Sold by druggists.

The Poultry Yard

Diseases of Poultry.

Fowls are particularly liable to colds, as the air-cells occupy so large a part of their physical frame work. Where there is a slight cold, put the fowl in a warm, sunny place, give warm food, and nothing more will be needed. The same method should be pursued in hard colds. If there is much fever, put four drops of tincture of acetic acid into the water; or sweeten it, and make it a little sour with sulphuric or nitric acid. Add to the food a pinch of ginger or cayenne pepper. If there is much swelling about the head, a mild purge will be useful. The homoeopathic gives mercurius vivus for slight colds, euphrasia for more serious ones; each three daily, adding acetic for the fever.

A roup may only begin with catarrh, and like roup, catarrh and bronchitis sometimes cause death. But how are we to know such cases from roup? Simply by the offensive discharge at the beak which characterizes the latter disease. When a fowl has a discharge at the beak that is not offensive, you may call it a simple catarrh or common cold. When the odor is bad it is a roup. No better distinction is possible in the present state of knowledge of fowl ailments.

Give the German roup pills in either case. There is hardly a fowl all to which this medicine is not applicable, as they are a serviceable tonic.

The difficulty in telling these maladies apart will suggest to the careful poultryer prompt isolation of cases where he is not certain.

Cough may come from parasites in the air passages. This applies more particularly to the sneezing effort caused by the tape worm in the throat of young chickens. A spasmodic cough, lasting a whole day even, is reported as having accompanied the epizootic. It yielded under a treatment with potash.

Consumption, or tubercular deposits, may be suspected where a cough does not yield to treatment, and admits of no other explanation. Cod-liver oil, in barley meal, would be the treatment, if any one really wanted to save consumptive fowls. They ought to be killed.

Asthma is nothing more than roup, as far as we know, and very likely this name may have been given to cases of that sort.—American Poultry Yard.

Preserving Eggs.

As we have had numerous inquiries for some time past for the best methods of preserving eggs, we reprint the recipe which we consider from practical knowledge to be the most satisfactory:

To one pint of salt and one pint of lime add four gallons of boiling water. Slack the lime first in a small quantity of hot water. When cold, put it in stone jars or anything that will not absorb the liquid (a vessel of wood or brown earthenware will not do). Then, with a dish, lay down your fresh eggs in it, tipping the dish after it fills with water, so that they will roll out without cracking the shell, for if the shell is cracked the egg will spoil. Put the eggs in whenever you have them fresh (they should not be over two or three days old). Keep them covered in a cool place, and they will keep fresh for a year.—Poultry Yard.

If one is breeding fancy fowls for sale, he naturally desires to gain a good reputation as a breeder. One good way to attain this is to exhibit choice fowls at the fairs. These annual "festivals" will soon occur again, and it is time to prepare for them. Fall trade will follow them, so it is best to be on hand, and in a cheap way, do a good deal of good local advertising. Select the most promising specimens of the flock and give them extra care and attention. Mate them well, give them extra attention, and take the prizes. To fulfill the expectations of patrons who purchase from your sample exhibit birds, never fill any order with an inferior specimen. It is one thing to get trade and another to keep it. Fair dealing in poultry sales will always be found the royal road to success.



This beautiful clock, an ornament to any room in cottage or mansion, is given as a premium to any one who sends us twelve new subscribers for one year. We have sent out hundreds of them for premiums; some of which have been running for several years, and all keep accurate time, and give unbounded satisfaction. Every one who reads this can get up the club and get this excellent clock free.

The Hon. J. A. Davis' Illustrated Lives of the James and Younger Brothers, published by N. D. Thompson & Co., St. Louis, has reached a sale of 50,000 copies in ten months. The demand is wonderful. Book agents are reaping a rich harvest with it. 16-13

TURKISH BATH ESTABLISHMENT.

No. 311 N. Seventh Street, bet. Olive and Locust. GEO. F. ADAMS, M. D. SUPT.

For Ladies. Monday, Thursday and Saturday Mornings from 9 a. m. to 12 m.

For Gentlemen. From 7 a. m. to 9 p. m., excepting the above hours for ladies.

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PERRY DAVIS' Pain-Killer

A SAFE AND SURE REMEDY FOR

Rheumatism,

Neuralgia,

Cramps,

Cholera,

Diarrhoea,

Dysentery.

Sprains

AND

Bruises,

Burns

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Scalds,

Toothache

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Headache.

PAIN-KILLER is the well-tried and trusted friend of all who want a sure and safe medicine which can be freely used internally or externally, without fear of harm and with certainty of relief. Its price brings it within the range of all. It will annually save many times its cost in doctor bills. Price, 25 cents, 50 cents, and \$1.00 per bottle. Directions accompany each bottle.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

OFFICE OF A. J. CHILD,

GENERAL PURCHASING AGENT,

209 Market Street

ST. LOUIS, MO.

FEED MILLS.

The short crop of corn this season will cause all good farmers to feed carefully, so as to make every pound tell on his stock. Every man who has tried it will admit that a bushel of corn, crushed with the cob, will go nearly as far for feed as two bushels fed in the ear. This can be obtained by ordering a cane and cob crusher. We are selling the best made to farmers at wholesale rates for single mills. We have the Monarch and Little and New Giant—all first-class and well-known mills—and will be pleased to furnish descriptive circular and prices on application.

A. J. CHILD.

RIDING PLOWS.

We cannot furnish the Peoria Riding Plow any more this season, the stock being entirely exhausted.

We are authorized to offer the Hughes Riding Plow—any size, on board of ears here—for \$40 cash, with order. To those to whom we have lately made quotations which were higher, we will furnish at the above price—\$40.

A. J. CHILD.

THE LAST CHANCE.

We have instructions from the manufacturers of the Dauntless Sewing Machine that they have decided hereafter to sell their machines through local agents. Consequently we cannot furnish them hereafter. We have in stock, which we will furnish to first orders, the following machines at prices given:

Two No. 2, with leaf-cover and one drawer, \$21.50; six No. 3, with leaf-cover and two drawers, \$23; three No. 5, with leaf-cover and four drawers, \$24.

The prices at which these machines will be sold hereafter will be just double.

We can only say as before that we consider the "Dauntless" the best machine in use, and those who secure one at the above low prices, will be fortunate.

A. J. CHILD.

FARM WAGONS.

We have a fine stock of the "Mishawaka" Wagon, and can fill orders promptly. We will give special prices, if several can be ordered at once, to same shipping place. Send for description and prices to

A. J. CHILD.

FANNING MILLS.

We offer the celebrated Lowe's Improved X. L. N. T. Fan Mill, with grass seed sieves included, for \$18 on cars in St. Louis.

GRAIN DRILLS.

Send for descriptive circular and prices of the best grain drill in use.

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Fruits in their Season a Specialty.

We offer to shippers 12 years experience, promptness and the best location in the city. Market reports, small plates, &c., free on application. Refer to Editor Rural World.

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Concord, Catawba, Ives' Seecolig, Virginia Seedling—all pure grape juice. A so grape and apple brandy. Will sell by the gallon or barrel. The wine is all warranted.

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THRESHERS

THIS IS A VIBRATING MACHINE OF THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE TYPE, ADAPTED TO BOTH

STEAM AND HORSE-POWER

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TRACTION AND PLAIN ENGINES,

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Refer to R. W. Gentry, Pres. Mo. W. G. A.

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Or to D. Swan, Emporia Kan.

29-13

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Springfield, Mo. (collects patronage on these grounds: Completeness of equipment, thoroughness of training, earnest religious character, economy in expenses, healthfulness of location. College and preparatory school under one management. Open alike to both sexes. Advantages for the study of music and art of a high order. Tuition for candidates for the ministry and common only in the children of members free. Send for Catalogue to Rev. N. J. Mortimer, D. D. President.

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Made of Best Oil Tempered Steel.

The Only RELIABLE Bolster Spring in Use.



SIMPLE AND SATISFACTORY.

They are largely from wear and tear in every part of the wagon. They remove all necessity for a spring seat. They convert a common Leimner Wagon into a Spring Wagon, making it equally comfortable for from one to twenty persons. They are admirably adapted to the wants of Fruit and Vegetable Growers. They are suited to all makes and sizes of Wagon, and can be attached by any one. They make the cheap and easily sprung Wagon in the field as good as the expensive one. No Transfer of Farm or stock is needed to be without them. We want Agents everywhere. Send for description and prices, and mention this paper.

SEMPLE & BIRGE MFG. CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

29-13

FRAZER AXLE GREASE.

Best in the World. Get the genuine. It is made by the FRAZER AXLE GREASE CO. and is sold everywhere.

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MICA AXLE GREASE

Composed of the best Mica and Lubricating Oil, it is the best because it does not gum, but forms a highly polished surface over the axle, reducing friction and lightening the draft. It is the cheapest because it costs no more than inferior brands, and one box will do the work of two of any other Axle Grease. It is equally as well for heavy-duty work as for light-duty work. Corn-Planters, Road-Carriers, Threshing Machines, Corn-Planters, Carriages, Buggies, etc., etc., use for Wagon. GUARANTEED to contain no Petroleum. For sale by all first-class dealers. Our Postal Catalogue of Things Worth Knowing mailed free.

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18-6

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\$15 Worth of Books Free.

Our readers will see "\$15 worth of books" advertised in this paper. To any one who will send us eight subscribers for one year, we will send, without charge, the \$15 worth of books as a premium. How can any one get a small library cheaper?

In time of plenty prepare for famine.

The question of the hour is, shall government control corporations or be controlled by them? Shall the people rule or be ruled by a moneyed aristocracy?

All those who wish catalogues and premium lists for the St. Louis Fair can obtain the same by sending to Mr. G. O. Kalb, the secretary, at 618 Chestnut street, St. Louis. They will be forwarded immediately, upon application.

The dry weather has resulted in damage even to the tomato crop, the fruit being generally consumptive and withered. The nauseating worms have also been terribly abundant and have destroyed enormous quantities of tomatoes.

The grain market has been weak and fluctuating the past few days; the results of immoderate speculation. In Chicago the fever ran much higher than in St. Louis, and last week fortunes were made and swept away in a few hours.

It is an ill wind that blows no one any good. While our fruit growers in this section of the country are despairing of their wretched crops, California is shipping immense quantities of fruits eastward and getting big prices for the same.

The RURAL WORLD was the first paper in the Mississippi Valley to open a Grange Department in its columns. It is now the first paper to open an Anti-Monopoly Department, and it intends to work earnestly and zealously to establish Anti-Monopoly leagues in every county in every western and southern State.

The oarsman, Hanlan, exhibited at Creve Coeur Lake last week and said in that qualification that it was beyond a doubt the best boating course in America. The champion will probably row his big championship race with Wallace Ross, at Creve Coeur, and it will be a great event for the lovers of aquatics in this section.

There was a shower on Thursday morning of last week in the vicinity of St. Louis which did a little good to vegetation, but the ground was so dry that it speedily drank up all the moisture. The weather is cooler and pleasanter since, and, after a copious shower, would be all one could desire. The nights are cool, so that all can have refreshing sleep. The cool weather has done much to improve the health of people.

We attended a grange picnic on the border of Shelby and Monroe counties, about ten miles southeast of Shelby on Saturday last. There were at least two or three thousand persons in attendance. It was one of the best meetings of the kind that we have attended in a long time. Speeches were made by Hon. T. P. Bashaw, N. J. Colman, Dr. J. M. Langsdale and others, which were listened to with close attention. The best of good cheer prevailed, and a real good harvest feast was enjoyed by all present.

The watermelon season in St. Louis has been remarkable. Never were such immense quantities sent in, or such high prices obtained throughout. Every family appears to have been seized with the desire to eat them day after day. There is no abatement in the demand or consumption. They find ready sale on track at \$75 to \$125 per car, according to quality and condition. The extremely hot weather created a demand for the luscious melon that proved a veritable bonanza for the farmers.

The Chicago Fair.

The interest taken in the above great event which takes place the second week in September, is on the increase, and a number of Missouri manufacturers and stock raisers will be represented. The prizes aggregate \$50,000, and will be open for the world's competition. A most interesting feature will be the trotting and running trials, also steeple chase racing. There will also be 200 head draft horses in competition. Secretary Hall went east last week to secure extra attractions. All those wishing premium lists or special information, should address the secretary at 116 Monroe street, Chicago, and prompt attention will be paid to the same.

The President.

It is very difficult to surmise what will occur within a day or two, but it seems certain that the chief executive is wasting away slowly and surely. He did not improve after the point regarded as the crisis had been passed, but seems to have been under the malarial influences, which abound in the vicinity of the White House at this time of the year, and his formerly robust frame has wasted away to mere skin and bones. The probabilities are that before our next issue the nation will be in mourning.

The excitement in the grain market the past week was intense. Frequently the market fluctuated wildly and it was hard to tell whether the longs or shorts were being crushed. The prolonged steady advance has finally come to a halt and the future is full of uncertainty. The men who bought and held have made little fortunes, but the time for unloading appears to have arrived. Though rain could not now afford much relief to the corn crop its absence stimulates the market and the weather seems to be the controlling element.

Peaches are coming to this market now quite freely. Gadsden, Humboldt and Milan, Tenn., are furnishing the bulk of the receipts. A good portion of those coming now are inferior in quality, seedlings, etc. If the growers kept considerable of such at home and saved it by drying or through the evaporating process, they would find more money eventually in it. Dried peaches will be exceedingly scarce, commanding at least 8 to 10 cts per pound for common dried fruit this fall and winter, and what won't pay to ship will pay to dry and put away until a demand exists for it at good prices.

While at Shelby, Mo., last week, we were invited by our friend Dean, of that place, to walk around to the stables of Messrs. Settle & Frederic, and see their horses. We accepted his invitation, and when we got there was greatly surprised to find 14 head of Clyde and Norman stallions—for we were not aware that any establishment in Missouri had so large a number of draft stallions. Some of these stallions are imported, and those wanting good draft stallions would do well to visit Messrs. Settle & Frederic, before purchasing elsewhere. We believe the most of these stallions were obtained from Ohio, but Messrs. Settle & Frederic intend to import direct from both Scotland and France, and make a specialty of this business. They say they have received great encouragement, and are doing well in their business.

Our fruit growing friends should bear in mind the very important fact that the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society will be held in Cincinnati, Sept. 7th to 9th inclusive. We sincerely hope the fruit growers of the Mississippi Valley will turn out in large numbers and take with them a good number of specimens of their finest fruit. Cincinnati is a city well worth visiting. The horticulturists there are not only skillful and enterprising but warm hearted and hospitable, and they will give their horticultural friends from abroad a cordial and hospitable reception. All who can possibly spare the time should attend this meeting, and then go right on to Boston to attend the meeting of the American Pomological society the following week. President Wilder is anxious to have the largest and best meeting ever held by that society, and he has done so much for that society and for the cause of horticulture generally that we should do all we can to please him. Let there be a large attendance at both meetings. It will be time well spent.

Some few years since a company of English capitalists was formed for the purpose of reclaiming some of the waste desert lands of Colorado by irrigation, and the success attending their first efforts have stimulated the company to undertake the still greater task of reclaiming a hundred thousand or more acres of desert land that lie on the side of the hills that run from Platte Canon to Boxelder creek, some few miles from Denver, Colorado. The ditch proposed, or in fact now being dug, is forty feet wide by seven feet deep, and runs a distance of nearly eighty miles. The government price for these lands per acre is one dollar and twenty-five cents, which is more than the land is worth, being dear at any price, unless it be situated on the banks of one of the artificial ditches where it will command from five to fifteen dollars per acre at once, and more, as water and cultivation improve the soil. The lands are capable of bearing all the western crops, and of also making good upland hay. The snow on the mountains melts just at the time when the most water is wanted for irrigating the lands. Though the company endeavor to have enough water all the year round for all purposes, the farmers may require. The tax for the use of the water on an eighty acre farm has been heretofore five hundred dollars, which sum covers all expenses for all time, but the company that are digging this larger ditch have in contemplation a scale of prices that shall be decided upon when the year's expenses are

known, then the tax will be pro-rata of this sum to which will be added an interest on the money invested, which method appears to be the best both for the farmer as well as for the company, and no doubt will be adopted.

A Word of Warning—Our Present Duty.

Croaking has not been one of my special failings, for although often under a cloud, I have tried to cultivate a cheerful temper, and in my efforts for the public weal I have tried always to be truthful. There is no doubt but the farmers of this great Mississippi valley have hard times before them. An almost unprecedented drought is upon more than half of this great and fertile section, embracing beyond a doubt, the best agricultural States of North America. Prominent among these is Illinois, and she is suffering most severely. A very reliable gentleman who has just traveled across the State between St. Louis and Effingham, says there is absolutely not a single good ear of corn on thousands upon thousands of acres which were planted, and scarcely a green blade. But the farmers have hay upon which to rely for feed. This alone we know will not fatten either beef or pork. There is no fruit, no potatoes, no vegetables of any kind; apples are small, dry and frequently cooked on the trees. And this is true of other large fruits. The same gentleman above referred to, returned from the east via Chicago and Illinois Central railroad, and says that the same distressing conditions prevail in all that section also. But it is preposterous to say that Illinois, the finest grain growing State in the Union, will want outside aid. She can take care of all those that are in distress, she ought to and will do it. If there is actual want and destitution and suffering—except among the rich and indigent poor—it must be owing to very poor and improvident conduct and want of foresight. We are not unmindful of the fact, however, that something akin to this kind of improvident action is the one great fault of farmers everywhere who never seem to look ahead. They are so certain of crops generally, and they sell so close, everything that they think they can spare, that such a season as the present brings the distress which all must now look forward to.

I have spoken of Illinois, but there are large sections of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri, where the same state of affairs obtain. Nowhere does wheat even come up to the estimate. Ohio and even New York, though not strictly speaking in the Mississippi valley, are nevertheless also suffering from drought and short crops.

WHAT IS THE DUTY OF THE HOUR? All must husband their resources. Anything which can be dispensed with ought not to be bought. Clothing can be renovated and mended and made to do for another year. Mature stock had better be sold; young stock had better be the last with which a farmer should part. But with all this do not economize at the wrong end. Read and study your agricultural paper and your religious journal. Keep up church and school organizations and cultivate a cheerful and hopeful temper. If ever you feel despondent, read and study the twenty-third Psalm; also the first and the ninety-first.

As soon as the autumn rains will permit put in your seed, cultivate well, manure if you possibly can, and in all things try and do your part and trust to a kind Providence to do His part. I have lived and labored on a farm for over twenty-five years, and I gratefully record the fact that not only have I not felt actual want, but whenever I have fully performed my duty in preparing the soil and sowing good seed, I have had bread enough—with all needful things—and to spare. So do not despond, but go to work and all will still be well.

I need no prophetic vision to discern the inevitable failure of merchants and manufacturers in the near future; simply because all prosperity starts with the success of the farmer. If he has good crops and is able to buy, then although the verifications of trade and commerce, there are lively transactions and general prosperity. Railroads also must suffer for want of produce waiting transportation to the wants of the world. New roads will have the hardest time.

It is no new thing to find commercial travelers, agents and salesmen first inquiring the records of mortgages before they offer to sell goods on time, so as to ascertain the commercial standing of their patrons old or new. Everybody seems anxious to stand from under when the crash comes.

CHAS. W. MURTFELDT.

Kirkwood, Mo.

Canadian Agriculture.

Mr. Brown, professor of agriculture at the Guelph Model Farm, Province of Ontario, has been making a variety of experiments, the results of which are summarized as follows in his annual report, and which may prove suggestive to our American readers, even if they are not prepared to accept all the points suggested as conclusive.

1. A steady, frosty winter is better than an open one in feeding cattle.
2. An average two or three-year-old steer will eat his own weight, of different materials, in two weeks.
3. Two or three-year-old cattle will add one-third of a pound more per head per day to their weight upon the same materials unprepared.
4. It is thirty per cent, more profitable to pre-mature and dispose of fattening cattle, at two years old than to keep them up to three years.
5. There is no loss in feeding a cattle beast well upon a variety of materials for the sake of the manure alone.
6. Farm yard manure from well-fed cattle, three years old, is worth an average of \$3.30 per ton.
7. A three-year-old cattle beast, well fed, will give at least one ton of manure every month of winter.
8. No cattle beast whatever will pay for the direct increase to its weight from the consumption of any kind or quantity of food.
9. On an average it costs twelve cents for every additional pound of flesh added to the weight of a two or three-year-old fattening steer.

10. In this country the market value of store cattle can be increased thirty-six per cent, during six months of finishing by good feeding.

11. In order to secure a safe profit, no store cattle beast, well done to, can be sold at less than 4½ cents per pound, (live weight).

12. In the fattening of wethers, to finish as shearlings, the Cotswold and Leicester grades can be made up to 200 pounds, the Oxford, down 180 pounds, and the South-down (grades) 160 pounds each (live weight).

13. Combining wool and flesh value, the South-down grades give the highest returns—as much as double that of the Cotswold grade, and thirty-five per cent, over that of the Leicester suds, as also slightly in advance of the Oxford Down grade.

14. Fattening cattle on oats, will eat one-sixth less hay than when receiving corn or peas; those on pea meal will drink one-third more water than those upon corn or oats. Clover lessens the consumption of roots.

15. Apparently about one-fifth of ground corn passes through the cattle beast undigested.

16. Pea meal (rough ground) gives twenty-one per cent, greater returns in fattening cattle than either corn or oats.

Weekly Tobacco Report.

The sales this week probably exceeded our estimates, which shows a very heavy business, especially so considering the stocks on sale in first hands.

Market opened animated. Lugs and low grades taking the lead as heretofore. The growing scarcity of these however, returned more attention to the better grades of leaf, and quite a large business was done in these; and while prices are not yet as high as they were in the summer and fall of 1879, on redillery styles, yet they will all find a parity of value before the end of next month.

Burleys were in good demand. Common colory selling at \$12 to \$15, and one colory cutter from Holt Co. Mo. sold at \$19.50, and we heard of some 15 hds. sold privately of Chavonit and Carroll Cos. Mo. at \$18.50, which ought to encourage the planters to let their crops stand until they get ripe, and not cut green, as some are doing an account of field firing.

Good to fine bright Virginia wrappers more sought after, and we anticipate better business in these henceforward. Market closes active, and exceedingly strong with an advancing tendency.

No improvement is noted of the crop in our state, and the general impression is, rains would now do but little, if any good.

J. N. CROUCH, Manager.

Fish Culture—The Carp.

Any pond that will raise goldfish or frogs will do for Carp; in fact, no waters are too warm for them. The National carp ponds were established in the old swamps and canal, near the monument, at Washington, three years ago, and drafts for stocking other waters are now being made upon them, over 10,000 young fish about five inches long having been sent to Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas and New York.

The fish itself is probably of Asiatic origin, and has been domesticated in China for thousands of years. It has, however, been so extensively distributed in Europe as to have become, in a measure, a native fish, occurring in public waters as well as in private enclosures. It is emphatically a farmer's fish, and may safely be claimed to be among fishes what chickens are among birds, and pigs and ruminants among mammals. Its special merit lies in the fact of its sluggishness and the ease with which it is kept in very limited enclosures, it being a vegetable feeder, and its general inoffensiveness, whereas trout and black bass require a supply of animal food for their sustenance and growth; the carp, while not disdainful flies, worms, larvae, etc., lives on the succulent roots and leaves of aquatic plants, their seeds, as they fall into the water, and other similar substances, and may be fed very readily upon corn, bread, root crops, raw or boiled, and indeed any vegetable refuse whatever.

Its rate of growth, too, is something marvelous, and, as observed so far in the specimens introduced into the United States, being more remarkable here than in Europe. Among the original fish imported from Europe, and which are now only about three and a half years old, are some from twenty-five to thirty inches in length, weighing from four to eight or nine pounds.

The carp will thrive best in artificial or natural ponds with muddy bottoms, and such as abound in vegetation. In large ponds it may not be necessary to put any special food, but in restricted enclosures, as, for instance, those of a fraction of an acre, they may be fed with the refuse of the kitchen garden, leaves of cabbage, lettuce, leek, etc., hominy or other substances. Grain of any kind is generally better boiled before fed to the fishes, but this is probably not absolutely necessary.

It is a prime necessity that there be no predaceous fish in the same pond with Carp. Of course, the larger fish will be measurably secure against the attacks of carnivorous species of about the same size, but the eggs and young will become a prey to the rapacity of their associates. As a general rule, the fish will thrive best when they are the sole occupants of particular waters, although the association of suckers and chubs would be less objectionable than that of sunfish, perch or black bass.

The carp spawn in the spring, in May and June, and indeed in some circumstances throughout the entire spring. They are very prolific, the female laying from 50,000 to 500,000 eggs, according to her size. The eggs adhere tenaciously to whatever they touch, and for that reason it is very important that the new pond should be provided with floating weeds for such attachment. The eggs hatch out in a few days, and the young grow very rapidly. They feed voraciously upon the so-called frog spittle, the green alga scum so common in frog ponds. Consequently such waters are especially adapted to carp.

Whenever the water becomes chilled down to perhaps forty degrees, and especially when frozen over at the top, the fish bury themselves in the mud, aggregating in lots from fifty to one hundred, frequently with their tails projecting, and constituting what is called in Germany kettles of roses. It is very important they should not be disturbed under such circumstances. Of course, while hibernating in this way they are not feeding, although they are said not to lose apparently in weight. In the more southern regions, where the waters do not freeze, they will probably feed throughout the year and make a more rapid growth.

So far no waters have proved too warm for them; indeed, they are said to thrive especially well in reservoirs receiving the condensed waters of low-pressure steam-engines in Germany of over 100 degrees temperature.—Southern Planter.

Game and Fish Laws.

There has been a general misunderstanding about the present Missouri game laws, and so many violations have occurred that the Missouri Game and Fish Protective Association and the Missouri Sportsmen's Association have prepared an abstract of the laws now in force and the penalties prescribed. Below will be found the synopsis:

GAME.

It is unlawful to kill, catch, or have in possession, any deer, between January 15 and September 1.

Wild turkey, between March 1 and September 15.

Prairie chicken, between February 1 and August 15.

Quail or pheasant, between February 1 and October 15.

Woodcock, January 10 and July 1.

Turtle doves, meadow larks and plover, between February 1 and August 1.

Wild song birds or insectivorous birds cannot be killed at any time.

It is unlawful to destroy the nests or eggs of any of the birds named above.

It is unlawful to net or to trap any quail, prairie chicken or other birds named above at any time.

It is unlawful to have in possession, or purchase or sell, any of the game birds or animals named above, during the season when the killing is prohibited.

It is unlawful to have in possession or to sell any of the game birds named that do not show shot marks, it being prima facie evidence that they have been trapped or retted contrary to law.

It is unlawful for any railroad, express company or other carriers to receive for transportation any of the birds or game mentioned, when the killing of the same is prohibited.

PENALTY.

Every person who shall violate any of the above named laws shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine not exceeding \$20 for each bird or animal killed, netted or trapped or found in his possession.

Any violators of these laws can be prosecuted before any police justice, recorder, justice of the peace or other courts having jurisdiction to try cases of misdemeanor. One-half of any fines collected will be paid to the informer and the balance goes to the school fund of the county. It is the duty of all constables, marshals, market masters and police officers to arrest all persons violating any of the game laws, and take them before complaints.

California quail cannot be killed before October, 1883.

Mexican quail cannot be killed before January 1, 1886.

Hawks, owls, eagles and crows can be killed at any time, and the destruction of these birds and their nests is recommended, as they are very destructive to other birds.

FISH LAWS.

It is unlawful to use any seine, gill net, trammel net, set net, bag-net, brush drag, or to erect any fish trap or dam, or any obstruction for the purpose of catching fish in any of the waters of the state at any time of the year.

The penalty for violating this law is not less than \$20 nor more than \$100. Any person to pay the fines and costs makes the person liable to imprisonment one day for each dollar of fine and costs.

It is unlawful to use in any of the waters of the state any medicated drug, fish-bait or other poisonous thing calculated to poison, kill or injure any fish.

It is unlawful to place any nitro-glycerine or other explosive thing or preparation in any of the waters of the state for the purpose of killing or injuring the fish in said waters.

The penalty for violating these laws is a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200, with imprisonment for failure to pay fines and costs not exceeding 200 days.

It is unlawful for any person to enter upon the posted lands of another for the purpose of taking fish from any private pond or artificial waters without the consent of the owner thereof.

Penalty for violating this law, \$25 for each offence, and the value of the fish taken.

Any person giving information which will lead to the conviction of any person violating the fish or game laws will receive one-half the fines collected as compensation.

Any person may seize and destroy any seines, nets or contrivances for catching or killing fish and he shall not be liable to the owner thereof, nor can he be prosecuted in any court. It is the duty of all sheriffs, marshals, constables and other state and county officers, to pay strict and prompt attention to the enforcement of all the fish and game laws of the state, and for any failure to execute the laws, a penalty of ten dollars can be collected.

The use of minnow seines, not exceeding fifteen feet in length, for catching minnows is allowed.

The owners of ponds entirely upon their own premises may net or seine in them without violating the laws applicable to other waters.

Netting and seining in the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, 500 feet from the mouth of any river or creek emptying into said rivers, is permitted.

The state of Missouri has a fish commission for the stocking of the waters of the state with game and food fish, and the propagation and protection of the same.

Application can be made to the commission for fish for the purpose of stocking private ponds, &c.

The organization of protective associations similar to that of St. Louis Fish and Game Protective Association in every county in the state is earnestly recommended.

There will be \$5,000 of the above distributed during the next few weeks to postmasters, sheriffs and members of the different associations.

Fairs for 1881.

STATE AND DISTRICT FAIRS.

Illinois, Peoria, Ill., Sept. 26 to Oct. 1.
Ohio, Columbus, O., Aug. 29 to Sept. 2.
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 5 to 17.
Indiana, Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 26 to 30.
Iowa, Des Moines, Sept. 5 to 9.
Wisconsin, Fond du Lac, Wis., Sept. 26 to 30.
N. W. Agr. and Mech. Ass'n, Oskosh, Wis., Sept. 12 to 17.
Nebraska, Omaha, Neb., Sept. 12 to 18.
Minnesota, Rochester, Sept. 5 to 10.
Chicago Exposition, Chicago, Sept. 7 to Oct. 22.
St. Louis Fair, St. Louis, Oct. 3 to 8.
Montana, Helena, Sept. 26.
Texas Capital State Fair Ass'n, Austin, Oct. 18 to 22.

Michigan, Jackson, Mich., Sept. 19 to 23.
Tri-State Fair Ass'n, Toledo, Sept. 12 to 17.
Kansas State Fair Ass'n, Topeka, Sept. 12-17.
Northwestern Expo'n, Minneapolis, Sept. 6-10.
Central Ohio, Mechanicsburg, Sept. 13-16.

MISSOURI FAIRS.

Boone Co., Sturgeon, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Audrain Co., Mexico, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Boone Co., Columbia, Sept. 6-10.
Saline Co., Marshall, Sept. 6-10.
Jackson Co., Kansas City, Sept. 12-17.
Cole Co., Jefferson City, Sept. 13-17.
Monroe Co., Paris, Sept. 13-16.
Festis Co., Sedalia, Sept. 20-24.
Montgomery Co., Montgomery City, Sept. 20 to 24.
Marion Co., Hannibal, Sept. 27-31.
Moniteau Co., California, Sept. 27-30.
St. Louis Co., St. Louis, Oct. 3-8.
Knox Co., Edina, Oct. 4-6.
Northeast Mo., Williamstown, Sept. 19 to 23.
District Fair, Appleton City, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Platte Co., Platte City, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Nodaway Co., Maryville, Sept. 19 to 24.
Franklin Co., Washington, Sept. 14 to 16.

ILLINOIS COUNTY FAIRS.

Adams county, Camp Point, Sept. 5-9.
Boone, Belvidere, Sept. 6-9.
Bureau, Princeton, Sept. 20-23.
Carroll, Mt. Carroll, Sept. 6-9.
Cass, Virginia, Sept. 13-16.
Champaign, Champaign, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Chicago, Chicago, Sept. 2-7.
Clay, Flora, Sept. 27-30.
Coles, Charleston, Sept. 13-17.
Crawford, Robinson, Sept. 27-30.
Cumberland, Prairie City, Sept. 8 to Oct. 1.
DeKalb, Sandwich, Sept. 19-23.
DeKalb, Sycamore, Sept. 20-23.
Douglas, Tuscola, Sept. 13-18.
DuPage, Wheaton, Sept. 6-8.
Edgar, Paris, Sept. 6-9.
Edwards, Albion, Oct. 4-7.
Effingham, Effingham, Oct. 4-7.
Fayette, Vandalia, Sept. 21-23.
Ford, Paxton, Aug. 30 to Sept. 2.
Franklin, Benton, Oct. 11-14.
Fulton, Canton, Oct. 4-7.
Fulton, Avon, Sept. 27-30.
Gallatin, Shawneetown, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.
Greene, Carrollton, Oct. 18-21.
Hamilton, McLeansboro, Sept. 13-17.
Hancock, Warsaw, Oct. 19-21.
Henderson, Biggsville, Sept. 13-16.
Iroquois, Onarga, Sept. 13-16.
Jackson, Carbondale, Oct. 11-14.
Jasper, Newton, Sept. 20-23.
Jefferson, Mt. Vernon, Oct. 11-14.
Jersey, Jerseyville, Oct. 11 to 14.
JoDaviess, Galena, Sept. 27-30.
JoDaviess, Warren, Sept. 13-16.
Lake, Aurora, Sept. 13-16.
Kendall, Bristol, Sept. 6-9.
Knox, Knoxville, Sept. 12-16.
Lake, Libertyville, Sept. 21-23.
Lake, Waukegan, Sept. 26 to Oct. 1.
LaSalle, Ottawa, Sept. 5-10.
Livingston, Pontiac, Sept. 13-16.
Livingston, Fairbury, Sept. 5-9.
Logan, Atlanta, Sept. 6-9.
Macon, Decatur, Sept. 20-23.
Macoupin, Carlinville, Sept. 6-9.
Marion, Centralia, Sept. 27-30.
Marshall, Wenona, Sept. 19-23.
Mason, Havana, Oct. 4-7.
Massac, Metropolis, Sept. 13-16.
McDonough, Macomb, Sept. 13-16.
McHenry, Woodstock, Sept. 13-16.
McLean, Bloomington, Sept. 21-24.
Mercer, Aledo, Sept. 20-23.
Montgomery, Hillsboro, Sept. 27-30.
Montrie, Sullivan, Sept. 20-23.
Ogle, Oregon, Sept. 20-23.
Ogle, Rochelle, Sept. 6-9.
Perry, Pinckneyville, Oct. 4-7.
Pike, Pittsfield, Sept. 20-23.
Pope, Golconda, Oct. 5-8.
Randolph, Princeton, Sept. 23-30.
Randolph, Chester, Oct. 11-14.
Richland, Olney, Sept. 13-17.
Rock Island, Port Byron, Sept. 7-9.
Rock Island, Hillsdale, Sept. 14-16.
Sangamon, Springfield, Sept. 12-17.
Shelby, Shelbyville, Sept. 20-24.
Stark, Wyoming, Sept. 6-9.
Stark, Toulon, Sept. 20-23.
St. Clair, Belleville, Oct. 11-14.
Tazewell, Delavan, Sept. 12-16.
Union, Jonesboro, Sept. 13-17.
Vermillion, Catlin, Sept. 13.
Vermillion, Danville, Sept. 20-24.
Warren, Monmouth, Sept. 6-9.
White, Carmi, Sept. 6-10.
Whiteside, Sterling, Sept. 13-16.
Whiteside, Morris, Sept. 6-9.
Whiteside, Albany, Aug. 31 to Sept. 3.
Williamson, Marion, Sept. 27-30.
Wannabeago, Rockford, Sept. 13-16.
Woodford, El Paso, Sept. 12-17.

KENTUCKY FAIRS.

Nelson county, at Bardonia; September 6, four days.
Bourbon county, at Paris; September 6, five days.
Warren county, at Bowling Green; September 8, three days.
Mason and Bracken counties, at Germantown; September 14, four days.
Stumpson county, at Franklin; September 15, three days.
Mason county, at Mayville; September 20, four days.
Henry county, at Eminence; September 21, four days.
Pendleton county, at Falmouth; September 27, five days.
Louisville, Ky.; September 27, five days.
Henderson county, at Henderson; September 28, four days.
Barren county, at Glasgow; October 4, four days.
Owen county, at New Liberty; October 4, five days.
Davies county, at Owensboro; October 5, four days.
Christian county, at Hopkinsville; October 5, four days.
Ohio county, at Hartford; October 11, five days.
McLean county, at Calhoun; October 18, five days.

"Female Complaints."

Dr. R. V. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.: Dear

The Cattle Pard.

Blindness in Cattle.

COL. COLMAN: On page 254 of the RURAL WORLD, there is a short article from Logan county, Ill., giving a short and imperfect account of an outbreak of one kind of ophthalmia that man and animals are subject to nearly all over the world.

There was a similar outbreak in portions of this State, and along the river counties in Illinois, some ten or twelve years since. I treated quite a number of cases in the vicinity of this city, not having time to go farther. It was hot and dry at the time, and people at first attributed the disease to the Osage thorns, while stock were picking out what little grass they could find along them; but when it proved as bad where nothing but plank was used, that theory was abandoned. I was puzzled to tell what the disease was from the first description of it, which was given by the farmers.

A friend who had some fine stock, insisted on my going out with him to see what could be done to save them, as several of them were already blind, and more becoming so every day. I thought it must be granular or catarhal and contagious, but on examination of several cases, in different stages, I found it was *Staphylococcus*. The eye was very intolerant of light, and weeping a little in the first stages, but increasing rapidly as the disease progressed. At first the eye looked milky, as in the early stages of ophthalmia (moon blindness) in the horse, but soon gave way to granulations from the size of a pin-head to that of a grape, and of various colors like that fruit. Many of these broke and the eye ran out, either in part or all, and, of course, produced total blindness. Where both were lost, the patient had to be killed. I went to work vigorously and administered soda sulphur and ground ginger (sulphur salts) in doses, from four to sixteen ounces of the salts and half to two ounces of the ginger at once.

I also put a seton in the dewlap, saturated with oil of turpentine. I got the patients in the stables and had their eyes washed as well as possible, and then dressed them with weak mercurial ointment to keep the lids from adhering. I stopped all dry feed, and gave in lieu bran, shipstuffs, cornmeal, cotton seed and linseed messes, etc. I separated the sick from the well. Turned out at night to exercise. Move the seton as often as you can, and if it does not suppurate, renew the turpentine. If the salts do not operate in from twenty-four to thirty-six hours, repeat the dose. It often gives relief to wash the eyes with tincture of opium and rose water. Much depends on good nursing, as in all other diseases. This disease requires judgment, care and patience, but it will pay in the end. Most of the writers on this disease, think it is produced by a hydatid that grows in the eye, but there is really little known of the cause in our domestic cattle, as it is very rare and the cases sporadic.

Will your Logan county friend be good enough to let us hear from him again, as the disease might possibly spread during this great heat and drouth?

J. HARKNESS.
St. Louis, Mo., August 23.

White Short-horns.

Major B. P. Poore, of Indian Hill Farm, Mass., gives, in the American Cultivator, his reasons for keeping white Short-horns, and shows how this color has become fixed in his herd: "I will frankly confess that it is sentimentality, some may call it a whim, which prompts me to keep up the distinctive color of a herd established by my father in 1830. He then purchased a white bull calf from the herd of Mr. Hall at Harlem, near New York, and since then he, and in later years I, have purchased at intervals of four or five years white Short-horn bull calves. For ten or a dozen years the herd was mottled, but white began to predominate, and for the past ten years every calf has been white. I have raised my own oxen as well as cows, and while the color has been a mere question of fancy, I am more and more impressed with excellent qualities of the Short-horns for working oxen, for milk producers and for beef. Of course, in speaking of the dairy qualities of Short-horns, I mean the yellow-skinned strain and not the white-skinned Short-horns, which are only fit for beef."

The most successful breeders of cattle, sheep or swine, know from experience that although they may possess the best breeding animals, they will not be successful in producing superior stock if a continuous growth of the young animals is not kept up. In order to begin in time at this indispensable preparation for success, the brood mares, cows, ewes and sows are most carefully and suitably fed while young, and as soon as the young animals make their appearance, they are taken the greatest care of, the dams being suitably fed while suckling, and when the young ones are weaned, they are not supposed to want for food or drink single hour. By this means a continuous and rapid growth is kept up, and the animals attain a large size and heavy weight at an early age. When breeding animals are not properly fed and comfortably sheltered in winter, the bad effect of such treatment is not confined to their own want of condition—it is shared by their progeny, and can never be remedied. When young stock are not fed well and comfortably sheltered in winter, their growth becomes stunted, and no subsequent amount of good treatment can repair the damage. Young animals may suffer for want of proper provender in summer and autumn, as well as in winter, and when this happens it stops continuous growth, and prevents ultimate success in the objects of the breeder. Western breeders often rely too much

on short pasture through the summer and fall months. Care should be taken to give the stock extra feed if the grass is short, and to keep a plentiful supply of fresh water easily accessible to all the stock. To have good stock and take good care of it is now the best source of financial profit on the western farm. Early maturity is a valuable characteristic of improved stock, and to keep the young stock growing is of great importance to attain the highest success. —Western Agriculturist.

Salt for Farm Stock.

Prof. James E. Johnson, of Scotland, says that half the saline matter of the blood (72 per cent) consists of common salt, and as this is partly dissolved every day through the skin and kidneys, the necessity of continued supplies of it to the healthy body is sufficiently obvious. The bile also contains soda (one of the ingredients of salt) as a special and indispensable constituent, and so do all the cartilages of the body. Stint the supply of salt, and neither will the bile be able properly to assist digestion, nor the cartilages to be built up again as fast as they naturally waste. It is better to place salt where stock can have free access to it, than to give it occasionally, in small quantities. They will help themselves to what they need, if allowed to do so at pleasure; otherwise, when they become salt-hungry they may take more than is wholesome.

Culbertson (Neb.) Sun: J. C. Kester-son & Sons shipped about twenty-five car-loads of cattle east from the stock yards last Friday. We believe this is the first shipment made from these yards.

Ashton & Jordan, last week sold their herd of 96 head of cattle to Down Bros., of Rocky Ford. Price \$2,805. About half of them are graded Herefords; some of them this year's calves. They also sold their horses for \$180 cash.

North Platte Nebraskan: More cattle will be shipped from North Platte this season, than for any previous year. Cattle are all in excellent condition. The principal portion of the cattle belonging to the late firm of Struthers & Foster were sold last week by H. R. Ottman, assignee, to M. C. Connor, of Colorado. Some 900 were delivered this week.

Los Animas, Col., Leader: The Prairie cattle company, the wealthy corporation that bought out the Hall Brothers, has entered into an arrangement with other stock men of that section for driving their marketable cattle this season to Kit Carson, for shipment by the Union Pacific, where, they assert, excellent inducements have been offered them. They claim they can make better time by driving than by stopping here and waiting for cars.

Stock Notes.

In sales at auction, the secret employment of "puffers" or fictitious bidders, to enhance the price unduly, is a fraud on the purchaser who many void such a sale.

Partial records of the live-stock interests of Texas show a yearly yield of something 400,000 head of cattle. Eight dollars per head is about the average market price at San Antonio.

So soon as the purchaser that there has been a breach of warranty, he should give notice, offer to return the animal, and demand his money back, if he desires to be reinstated in the position he occupied before the sale.

The Polled Angus is becoming popular in America. H. M. Cochran of Ellensburg, Canada, has recently received five head from the Earl of Strathmore, and five head from Mr. Smith of Dundee, which cost from \$600 to \$800 per head.

The herd of Short-horns owned by Adam Renick, Winchester, Kentucky, consists of about 100 head, for which it is reported he has been offered \$200,000 and refused it. And yet the old gentleman is over 70 years of age and has no wife or child.

Thirteen Short-horn cows, selected from the famous Warley farm on the banks of the Thames, have just been imported at a cost of \$15,000 by Charles Morgan, a New York banker whose farm is near Bordentown, N. J. He has also purchased a young Short-horn bull for \$3150.

A notable importation of the famous Booth Short-horns was made recently by Mr. Charles Morgan, son of the New York banker, who has established a stock farm near Bordentown, N. J., and has given it the name of "Ned Warley." The cattle which he received Saturday numbered 13, among whom are the heifers Georgia Regia and Rufa, which cost \$250 each; the cow Miriam cost \$600, and her one-day-old heifer \$100; Saxon Queen, \$400; Bright Rose, \$100; Maria, \$100; one other unnamed, \$250; the bull Royal George, which cost \$600. The total cost of the 13 cattle in England was \$14,500, which, with the insurance, freight, etc., brings the expense up to near \$20,000.

When sales are made at public auction, or privately by printed terms of sale and catalogue, these form part of the contract, and will be binding upon the parties. If between the publication of these terms and the sale any accident occurs to the animal, or if a cow aborts or calves, notice should be given of the fact, or the purchaser may, on discovering the change, repudiate the bargain and recover the price he paid or damages, and in certain cases both. In taking a warranty it is safer to have everything expressed, such as the pedigree, age, freedom from vice, soundness, which the buyer desires to be assured of; and let the affirmations be positive. A bill of sale of a horse four years old, constantly driven and used in a plow, warranted, was held to be a warranty of soundness only; and a bill of sale of a horse, in which he was stated as "considered sound," was held not to be a warranty of soundness.

The Horseman.

Saddle Horses and Saddle Gait.

In the August number of the National Live Stock Journal, we find the following:

"There is an increasing demand of late for good saddle horses, and many of the fairs this season are paying much more attention than formerly to this class. The Chicago fair, especially, is giving great prominence to saddle horses in its premium list, which may be taken as something of an indication of the popular drift of demand."

"The gait that especially commend a horse for use in the saddle are, the walk, the fox-trot, the single foot, and

the rack. The walk is a gait understood by everybody; but everybody does not understand that a good saddle horse ought to be able to go a square walk at the rate of five miles an hour. The fox-trot is faster than the square walk, and the horse will usually take a few steps at this gait when changing from a fast walk to a trot. It is easily taught to horses by urging them slightly beyond their ordinary walking speed, and when they strike the fox-trot step, holding them to it. They will soon learn to like it, and it is one of the easiest of gaits for both horse and rider.

"The single foot differs somewhat from the fox-trot, and has been described as exactly intermediate between the true trot and the true walk. Each foot appears to move independently of the other, with a short pit-a-pat, one-at-a-time motion, and it is a much faster gait than the fox-trot."

"The rack is very nearly allied to the true pacing gait, the difference being that in the latter the hind foot keeps exact time with the fore foot of the same side, making it what has been called a lateral or one-side-at-a-time motion, while in the former the hind foot touches the ground slightly in advance of the fore foot on the same side. The rack is not so fast a gait as the true pace, but it is a very desirable gait in a saddle horse. In addition, the perfect saddle horse should be able to trot, pace and gallop, and should be quick, nervous and elastic in all its motions, without a particle of dullness or slowness in his nature. His mouth should be sensitive, and he should respond instantly to the slightest motion of the rein in the hands of the rider. A poor and clumsy rider, however, will soon spoil the best-trained saddle horse in the world, and such a person should never be permitted to mount a horse that is exceptionally valuable for that purpose. A 'plung' horse and a 'plung' rider may well go together; but keep a really good, well-trained saddle horse for one who knows how to enjoy this most health-giving, exhilarating and delightful of all out-door exercises."

Horse Notes.

Krupp Gun, a running horse, well known in this section, formerly owned in St. Louis, has gone wrong in both front legs.

Hambledonian Mambrino trotted the third mile in the Rochester race in 2:18 1/2, compelling Piedmont to go there in 2:17 1/2. This is certainly not a bad third heat.

St. Julien is said to be suffering from a trouble in his throat, supposed to be sort of quinsy, and there is no prospect of his being started anywhere for several weeks.

The 3-year-old filly Spark, the property of Mr. Pierre Lorillard, kicked a stable attendant last Tuesday, fracturing the man's skull and producing injuries which will probably prove fatal.

Brakpearl, the brother of Wallenstein, that was shipped to England by Mr. Keene last year, was purchased by Mr. Patmore for 200 guineas after winning a selling race at Brighton recently.

Orrin Hickok recently offered to bet \$7,500 to \$10,000 that Santa Claus could beat Piedmont a race in October. Mr. S. J. Morgan, the owner of Piedmont, at once offered to make the match, but nothing came of it.

Mr. David Bonner, brother of Robert Bonner, of the New York Ledger, bought on Friday, of Messrs. Baker & Harrigan, of Connetquot, N. Y., the gray 4-year-old stallion Nubourne, by Belmont, out of the dam of Mand S. The price paid was \$7,000.

Piedmont is the favorite for the stallion race at Boston. In the 2:21 class race at Rochester he won in the easiest style imaginable. In the third heat Johnson allowed him to go along a bit and he strung his followers out as he pleased, finishing an apparently easy mile in 2:17 1/2.

Never soerving from a direct line, true as a Creedmoor bullet seeking the bull's eye on a still day, strong and courageous to the last, is the language in which a writer describes the trotting of Mand S. at Rochester on the 18th inst., when she made her mile in 2:10 1/2, beating her own previous record, already the best in the world.

John S. Clark, the horse that won the 2:25 race at Rochester in straight heats, obtaining a record of 2:21 1/2, is by Thomas Jefferson. He is 8 years old, sixteen hands high, color chestnut, was bred by Austin Moore, of New Brunswick, N. J., and is owned by Mr. Robinson, of Trenton, N. J. His sister, one year younger—a very pure type of the family, named "Gipsy Jefferson"—is owned here by William B. Smith, and the dam of her brother will add very much to her value.

The 2:23 race at Rochester proved a brilliant contest. It was expected that the struggle would be entirely between Edwin Thorne and J. B. Thomas, with the chances largely in favor of Thorne, but an unexpected element appeared in Kate Sprague, who, after Thomas had won the first heat, sprang around the track in the second heat, and won the heat in 2:18. Thorne must have trotted the last half of this heat at 2:15 gait. After the third heat, however, Kate Sprague appeared to have shot her bolt and could do no more, so Edwin Thorne was able to go on and win about as he pleased. It was not the squarest appearing race in the world, and the judges had their suspicions aroused, but they could not find a place to put their finger on, and had to let it go.

An old horse, belonging to a Mr. Saunders at Fishkill Landing, came out of his owner's barn a few days since and stood for a few minutes looking out upon the water. He then went back, and in a few moments came out again, went deliberately to the water, waded into the cove that is enclosed by the Hudson River Railroad track, swam through the culvert under the railroad, and out into the channel of the river. A man working on the New England Railroad pile-driver saw the manœuvres of the horse, and, putting out in a small boat, brought him back. On reaching the shore the horse persistently refused to go on dry land. He lay down in the water, floundered about and apparently tried his best to drown himself by keeping his head under water. This he finally accomplished in water not deep enough to cover his body.—Exchange.

The 2:15 trot at Rochester was full of strange fluctuations. Hopeful won the first heat in 2:18 1/2, and was withdrawn after the third heat, not because he was sick, we are informed, but for the reason that his owner was dissatisfied with the ruling of the judges. Charlie Ford was awarded the second heat in 2:21, and Midnight the third and fourth heats in 2:22 1/2, 2:24 1/2. Santa Claus was sore and he was permitted to withdraw at the end of the third heat. He has not recovered from the severe task imposed upon him in the stallion trot at Rochester on July 4. Midnight carried the bulk of the money, but although Hickok was put up behind him he did not win. Charlie King captured the third heat in 2:24 1/2, and jogged under the

wire in the sixth heat in 2:28 1/2. Midnight trailing him. After the race there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth. So-so was soiling and did not get a heat, and Hannie went to the stable with her after the fifth heat. It was a queer race.—Turf, Field and Farm.

There was a great sensation when Steve Maxwell trotted two miles at Rochester in August of last year in 4:48 1/2, because it wiped out the 4:50 1/2 of Flora Temple, which record as a best was made in 1859. Convey was practically ruled out of 2 mile purses last year, therefore he had no opportunity to distinguish himself over a distance of ground. During the winter Mr. Funk sold him to Mr. Robert Bonner, and the first thing his new purchaser did was to balance him by shoeing him in a scientific way. The three-quarter track on the farm at Tarrytown is very slow this year, owing to the fact that it was too heavily manured last spring, but a few days ago Convey was given a two-mile trial over it, with John Murphy in the sulky. The first mile was trotted in 2:23 1/2, and the second in 2:22, making a total of 4:45 1/2. The fractional division was 36 1/2, 1:11 1/2, 1:48, 2:23 1/2, 2:58 1/2, 3:25 1/2, 4:00 1/2, 4:45 1/2. The last half of the second mile, it will be seen, was trotted in 1:10 1/2, and the last quarter in 35 seconds, thus showing that there was really more in the horse. On a fast track and keyed up for a race Convey should trot two miles in not less than 4:42. He has size and speed, and is one of the gamest horses that ever stood old iron. He is 8 years old, and was got by Woodford Mambrino, out of Vanity Fair, by Alexander's Abdullah, second dam thoroughbred Vanity, by Vandal. This is a rare combination of blood.—Turf, Field and Farm.

The Shepherd.

Edited by R. M. Bell, of Brighton, Macounia Co., Ill., to whom all matter relating to this department should be addressed.

Concerning Wool.

Considering the vast and growing importance of American sheep husbandry, it is of vital consequence that wool growers should become more fully acquainted with those peculiar characteristics of wool which give it superior value. Hair and wool so easily run into each other that the distinction between them is not easily known to the novice in the business. Both hair and wool are tubular and conical, but wool is completely covered with serrations like the scales of a fish, while hair is almost smooth, with a few scattered bugs here and there issuing from its sides. The kinds of wool nearest resembling hair are those which have the fewest serrations. In its physical conformation wool resembles a succession of joints in the form of inverted cones, the apex of the superior one being received into the cup or half excavated base of the inferior one.

The determination of the value of wool by the use of the microscope in examining the scales or serrations which form the cortex or covering of wool, is equally as uncertain and indefinite as the attempt to value wool by microscopic examinations of the fineness of fibre in different breeds. When the subject was first submitted to the test of the microscope it was contended that the fibre of the long woolled sheep was really hair and not wool; again, that the hair of negroes was similar to the wool of some sheep, while that of the white man possessed a smooth cuticle, like the hair of the horse, which had no felting properties. In after years it was fully demonstrated that the hair of the horse, even that taken from the tail, would felt, though previously it had been proved that the wool from the long woolled sheep would felt, although the process requires longer time than in the similar manipulation of fine wool.

These scales or serrations in the wool produce a sort of curl or contraction in staple, which might be called elasticity, giving that softness so desirable in the superior class of manufactures. The greater the number of scales to the inch the more elastic the fibre. Practically this curl in the wool is that which marks the difference between the real and apparent length of the staple. For instance, while the apparent length of the fibre from a Lincoln, Leicester or Cotswold yearling is sometimes twelve or thirteen inches, yet when combed out, the real length would reach twenty-four to twenty-six inches. Old hand wool combers frequently discovered that fifteen to nineteen inches was an uncommon real length, when at first the apparent length was but nine to ten inches. In fine wools, this difference between real and apparent lengths is even greater than with long combing wools.

The spinning qualities of the various kinds of wool draw little attention to the comparative differences between the real and apparent lengths of the fibre, and, in fact, the real value of the wool is determined by the same gauge. Especially so of worsted wool, the value of which is determined by the fineness of the thread which can be produced therefrom. Woollen yarn is numbered by hanks, each hank in worsted consisting of 560 yards in length. Now the greater the number of hanks which can be produced from a pound of wool, the greater the value of that wool. The same quality gives value to short, fine wool. In the days of making firm felting cloth that wool was of the greatest value which had the largest number of scales to the inch, and which also gave the widest range between its real and apparent lengths. In the manufacture of felted cloth, however, the real length of the fibre is decreased in the process of fulling; hence the main object to be attained in felting is the opposite of that secured in worsted spinning. Felting depends really upon the adhesiveness of wool, or its capacity of being beaten or pressed into a soft and pliable substance. In this connection when the term felting is used it is not intended to apply solely to those methods where spinning and weaving were dispensed with, but more particularly to those cases where crading, spinning and weaving were accomplished before the cloth was submitted to the action of the fulling mills.

Dr. Harter's

GENTLEMEN: I was suffering from general debility to such an extent that my labor was exceedingly burdensome to me. A vacation of a month did not give me much relief, but on the contrary, was followed by increased prostration and sinking spirits. At this time I began the use of your Iron Tonic, from which I derived almost immediate and wonderful results. The tonic returned and I found that my natural force was permanently abated. I have used three bottles of the Tonic, since using it I have done twice the labor that I ever did in the same time during my illness, and with double the ease. With the tranquil nerve and vigor of body, has come also a clearness of thought never before enjoyed. If the Tonic has not done the work, I know not what else will.

The Iron Tonic is a preparation of Ferrous Sulphate, Potassium, and Phosphorus, associated with the Vegetable Aromatic. It serves every purpose where a Tonic is necessary.

MANUFACTURED BY THE DR. HARTER MEDICINE CO., NO. 213 NORTH MAIN STREET, ST. LOUIS.

At present but a limited quantity of this style of cloth is worn, the popular goods for gentlemen of the present day being principally of a hard twisted fibre styled threadbare, in distinction from broadcloth, which was termed napped, from the peculiar finish of the goods.

It is impossible to lay down any definite rule of judging by breeds of the number or extent of scales or serrations in wool. For instance the number of scales to the inch is greatest in yearling wool, while young wool also shows the greatest differences between the real and apparent lengths. Every year of the life of the sheep the difference becomes less than the previous year, the number of serrations less to the inch and also less pointed. Thus year by year the cuticle becomes smoother and the spinning and felting qualities of the fibre less marked, until finally in the case of the wool of an old ewe the wool loses nearly all its elasticity. As to the wool of old sheep, there is little difference between its true and apparent length. Such wool will not produce as many hanks to the pound as the thread from younger wool. Cloth made from old sheep's wool is open and slazy, lacking firmness. Again, for practical purposes, the microscope is found to be at fault in the making of any general rule by which even the number of serrations in a given inch of fibre may be determined. Variations occur with the different parts of the fleece and also with the ages of sheep even of the same breed. Wool buyers and manufacturers are forced to rely upon the judgment of the sorters in making selections carrying uniformity.

Farmers may learn many practical lessons from an intimate knowledge of the characteristics of wool. Inasmuch as the value of a lot of wool depends largely upon the proportion of yearling fleeces contained therein, wool-growers should make it a point each year to fatten a certain number of the oldest ewes in the flock, always retaining a certain proportion of lambs. By this practice comparative uniformity in a flock of sheep may be maintained. On the other hand, by disposing of the lambs and keeping the ewes, the flockmaster will find his average clip of wool rapidly depreciating in quality and value. One important fact should be constantly borne in mind, that the fleece of a domesticated sheep is an artificial covering, which, if the animal be not properly cared for, tends to revert back to its original condition, toward a number of long, coarse hairs with a few finer fibres at the bottom of the staple. The art of the breeder has been directed towards eradicating the coarse hairs and increasing the number of finer fibres, as well as rendering the latter smaller in diameter. In the case of mutton sheep, the breeders strive to increase the length of their staples while still retaining the character of the wool. The greatest care and vigilance are necessary to prevent even the deterioration of wool, to say nothing of laudable attempts at improvements.

From a careful consideration of this subject the wool grower will readily understand that there may be many different values in the fleeces of a single flock of sheep. In England, where sheep husbandry has received far more study and attention than with us, the comparative value of wool is well understood. Thus the British farmer sells the clip of his hoggets (lambs from weaning until first shearing) at one price, that of his wethers at another and that of his ewes at still another price. While under the loose, unsatisfactory manner in which wool buying is conducted in this country, a lot of wool would be estimated higher in value in proportion as it was made up of young fleeces, yet is seldom or never the case that the fleeces are sorted as from hoggets, wethers or ewes. In England, where many who buy wool only spin it into yarn for sale to the weavers, the highest price is secured for those lots which contain the greatest number of hanks to the pound. Thus, number forty means forty hanks to the pound, each containing 560 yards.

That wool which in the hands of the spinner will produce the greater number of yards of yarn as worsted wool is of the greatest market value. An obstacle in the way of good combing wool in this country is the fact that our farmers insist upon selling off the lambs of the flock, which commonly bring an extra price, on the plea of immediate returns, thus sinking the average value of the whole clip to obtain a little ready cash from the sale of lambs. Again our farmers pay little attention to the feeding and care of their wethers, which yield excellent mutton and wool. A sheep that is constantly improving has a heavier fleece, with a longer, stonger staple than the wool from old ewes. Whenever a sheep falls off in condition a weak place is produced in the staple, apparent to any expert. The condition of the ewe is variable, the animals, system not always being equal to the double burden of carrying the lamb and feeding it, and also of making wool. In such cases the wool is always the first to suffer. Ewe's wool being almost with, out yolk shrinks but little in scouring though from the weakness in the staple its spinning yields double the noil or waste which arises from working the wool of yearlings or wethers.

If wool growers would adopt the plan of separating their fleeces at shearing time, keeping those of hoggets, of wethers and of ewes each by themselves, it would be one important step towards a better mutual understanding with the wool buyer. It would indicate a knowledge of the business, which would command the attention and respect of the buyer and finally lead to a change in the present hap-hazard style of valuing lots of wool. If wool buyers could be induced to make judicious discriminations in their purchases and afford proper encouragement to enterprising farmers, superior wool and improved mutton would be the order of the day. If

in place of absurd statements and ridiculous disparagement and exhibitions of ignorance, the buyer would give the farmer such information as to the requirements of the wool market as he should know, the improvement which would certainly follow would benefit both buyer and seller alike. Too often the wool buyers themselves are deficient in the knowledge of the important requisites of wool, and it behooves every farmer to educate himself, by the opportunities at hand, properly to judge of wool in all those characteristics which stamp its market value.—American Cultivator.

To tell the Age of Sheep.

The books on sheep have seriously misled flock-masters on this subject. Almost any sheep owner will tell you that after a year the sheep gets a pair of broad teeth yearly, and if you show that his own three-year-olds have four pairs of broad teeth, he can only claim that they are exceptions, and protest that they do not exceed three years of age. Now these cases are no exception, for all well-bred sheep have a full month of front teeth at three years old. Some old unimproved flocks may still be found in which the month is not full until nearly four years old, but fortunately these are now the exceptions, and should not be made the standard, as they so constantly are. In Cotswolds, Leicesters, Lincolns, South-Downs, Oxford-Downs, Hampshire-Downs, and even in the advanced Merinos, and in the grades of all of these, dentition is completed from half a year to a year earlier. The milk or lamb teeth are easily distinguished from the permanent or broad teeth, by their smaller size, and by the thickness of the jaw-bone around their fangs when the permanent teeth are still enclosed. As the lamb approaches a year old, the broad exposed part of the tooth becomes worn away, and narrow fangs projecting above the gums stand apart from each other, leaving wide intervals. This is even more marked after the first pair of permanent teeth have come up, overlapping each other at their edges, and from this time onward the number of small milk teeth, and of broad permanent teeth, can usually be made out with ease. Another distinguishing feature is the red or dark coloration of the fangs of the milk teeth, while the exposed portions of the permanent teeth are white, clear and pearly. The successive pairs of permanent teeth make their appearance through the gums in advanced breeds at about the following dates: The first pair at one year; the second pair at one year and a half; the third pair at two years and three months; the fourth and last pair at three years. It will be observed that between the appearance of the first two pairs there is an interval of six months, while after this each pair comes up nine months after its predecessor. For backward grades, and in the unimproved breeds, the eruption is about six months later for each pair of teeth, but even with the month is full at three years and six months.—Professor James Law in New York Tribune.

The Pig Pen.

D. M. Aspinwall writing from Fontanelle, asks for an explanation of the cause of death among pigs. The symptoms are first, weakness in the back followed by paralysis of the hinder parts and death in five or six weeks. The pigs before showing any signs of the disease had been placed in a pen with a large hog that was partially paralyzed and showing the same symptoms as were afterward developed in the pigs. The disease is doubtless due to the presence of parasites. There are a number of species of worm like entozoa that inhabit the kidneys the liver the muscular, fatty and serous structures, as well as other parts of the body. When these exist in large numbers, they often produce the symptoms above mentioned. These symptoms will be greatly modified in different cases. Each species of entozoa, has a decided choice as to the portion of the body from which its pork is to be selected. One is content to remain in the alimentary canal, another chooses the muscular tissue, or lean meat, a third prefers the fatty substance, while a fourth is content with the less expensive portion—the liver. Some of these are microscopic in size, and hence would go unnoticed by any but an expert.

The fact that little or nothing abnormal was discovered is no evidence that the diseased condition could not have been discovered by the aid of proper instruments. Treatment is of little or no avail when once the parasites have left the alimentary canal and gone wandering through the body.

Healthy animals should not be placed in the pen with diseased ones. The dejections often contain the eggs, or embryonic worms, which readily find their way into the bodies of healthy animals. Healthy pigs should be kept away from pens or yards where diseased animals have been, for the dirt and litter are likely to be strewn with germs which are only waiting an opportunity to be conveyed into the system of a fresh subject.—Iowa Homestead.

The Dead Cannot be Raised, nor if your lungs are badly wasted away can you be cured by the use of Dr. Price's "Golden Medical Discovery." It is, however, unequalled as a tonic, alterative, and nutritive, and readily cures the most obstinate cases of bronchitis, coughs, colds, and incipient consumption, far surpassing in efficacy cod liver oil. Send two stamps for Dr. Pierce's pamphlet on Consumption and Kindred Affections. Address WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Weekly Inter-Ocean has become the great newspaper of the West, both in point of circulation and character. A most tempting offer from them will be found in our advertising columns. It will pay to give it attention.

The Home Circle.

ROBIN AND I.

When Robin came a-courting me,
A comely youth was he,
While I was but a country lass,
As simple as could be;
I always blushed—was ill at ease—
Whenever he was by,
And felt so very, very queer—
I cannot tell you why!

The flowers he brought I hid away
Within a secret nook;
He never guessed how dear they were,
Or knew what pains I took
To keep them long; and when they grew
Quite faded, old and dry,
My tears fell on them like a dew—
I cannot tell you why!

Each gift he gave, each word he spoke,
To me was very dear;
And yet I was but half myself
Whenever he was near;
As restless as the startled fawn,
As timid and as shy,
I was—and yet he courted me,
I cannot tell you why!

Oh, there were maidens fair to see,
Bedecked with many a gem,
Who would have smiled delightedly
Had Robin courted them;
And in those strangely pleasant days,
I used to wonder why
He slighted these, and chose instead
A sweetheart such as I.

He seemed uncertain of his fate,
Until one summer day
He came and told me quietly,
That he was going away;
When I at once grew sick at heart,
And thought that I should die;
Oh, lovers, who are loath to part,
Perhaps you'll tell me why!

And then he urged me to become
His wife without delay;
As if I had been stricken dumb,
I had no words to say;
My heart beat fast; my lips in vain
 essayed to make reply;
But Robin did not go away—
I need not tell you why.

Letter from Fifty-Seven.

COL. COLMAN: As I failed to receive your RURAL of June 13th, I am indebted to Bon Ami's criticism for an insight of Walnut's article on "The signs of the times indicate the downfall of the United States." Bon Ami's letter is interesting, and deserves consideration, but I think that his assertion, "Better read bad books than none at all," is calculated to mislead, also to encourage indirectly those that read vile literature. If the food we eat is unwholesome and not thoroughly cooked; if what we eat or drink is of a questionable character, it will produce colic and nausea; so will trashy newspapers, novels or books demoralize and corrupt the morals and principles of our boys and girls, and I may add, our men too.

"The second sign" considered is intemperance. Intemperance is a social evil; a crime which cannot be condemned in language too severe. From the days of Noah, the juice of the grape—wine—which God intended for the good of mankind, has been adulterated, abused, and is one of the most powerful agencies of hell, to debauch and destroy man. As it is with trashy literature, so it is with intemperance. Society must frown its disapproval in a manner that will not be misinterpreted. It is not because men will read demoralizing books and periodicals, revel in filth, lay in sewers, disgrace themselves generally, that a forecast of the downfall of a powerful and progressive nation is to be predicted. The American people are temperate, and I think Walnut's theories are like ghost stories related by old maid aunts to frighten little children to sleep.

The third sign condemns emigration. A nation whose millions of acres of uncultivated, fertile lands only await the honest, willing hands of millions of hardy, industrious toilers, need not fear the result or predictions of those who are too narrow minded to estimate the great advantages which must follow an increase of population.

The fourth sign—"The desecration of the Sabbath"—must be more thoroughly defined. It is not because an individual attends church and holds services, and says grace, and appears sanctimonious, that he should be elected a saint. There are many "wolves in sheep's clothes."

Free trade, the fifth and last sign of the decay of the United States, need not disturb our national equanimity. My only regret is that Walnut is not an Hercules and cannot relieve Ajax. What honors imperishable, honors outlasting the pyramids of Egypt, would our reformers deserve if all their theories and predictions were come to fulfillment?

From history we learn that nations, like men, decline and retrograde when they are corrupted by prosperity, and when vice supersedes virtue.

The signs of the times indicate that the United States are progressive. The first census was taken in 1790, at which time the population was not over 4,000,000. In the course of ninety-one years, the inhabitants have increased 46,000,000. Our commerce in the same space of time has grown in greater proportions, from twenty to hundreds of millions of dollars.

From the day when Fulton demonstrated the utility and importance of steam as a motive power, the most surprising improvements have been made in the construction and navigation of steam and sailing vessels. In 1819 the Savannah was the first steamer that

crossed the Atlantic and reached Liverpool two weeks after her departure from the port of New York. Since then American ship-builders have excelled in their departments. Workmanship, improvements and skill have produced steamers and steamboats which as yet have not been surpassed by any nations of Europe, as the finest models of architecture adroit. Steam vessels are now as palaces on water, and cross the ocean in less than one week. In 1827 there were only a few miles of railroad in the United States. Now every state and territory, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the northern boundaries to the gulf of the Rio Grande are traversed by railways, organized into systematic and powerful combinations. Improvements of all kinds have been vigorously prosecuted, and our agriculturists, mechanics and artists are so skillful in their professions, as to be able to compete successfully with the best workmen of European countries.

Who look to other nations for our metaphysician, when we boast of our Edwards, whose works will compare favorably with the most honored of other climes? Our Noah Webster has not, as yet, been excelled as a lexicographer, nor our Bowditch as a mathematician. We may point with pride to Allston, Peale and others as our painters. Our historians are Bancroft and Prescott. Our poets are Longfellow and Bryant. Our sculptors are Greenough and Powers. The Audubons are our naturalists, and the Irvings and Coopers our novelists. Our soldiers are Grant, Lee and Jackson, and the achievements of the men they led are as brilliant as those that were immortalized at Marathon, Waterloo or crossed the Alps under the leadership of the great Napoleon. Our statesmen were Washington, Jefferson, Adams, whose love of country was equal, if not greater, than that of the Pericles of Greece, or the wise and virtuous Numa Pompilius of Rome.

The ancient, trained from infancy in the military art, were renewed for their wars and conquests. No plans or arrangements, however, were devised for the education of the people who were governed by superstition and tyranny; even those who held rank and had wealth could not read or write, and ignorance and superstition, darkened, perverted and bewildered their morals and intellect. Only a few had opportunities of acquiring limited knowledge, in the isolated colleges and seminaries over which priesthood held sway. After the introduction of Christianity in Europe, the Waldenses, inhabitants of the valleys of Piedmont, a poor, peasant race, it appears had a system of education. It was only after the reformation that educational attempts were made in Europe. The parliament of Scotland enacted a law compelling "Barons and substantial freeholders" to send their children to school, "that the country might be possessed of persons properly qualified to discharge the duties of sheriff and other civil offices."

No nation can boast of a more liberal, thorough and popular system for educating the people than ours, and the taxes to defray the maintenance of our public schools, are levied by and with the free consent of the governed. Some of our greatest statesmen, scholars, soldiers, sailors, mechanics and merchants have been taught at public schools; and, I here assert, without fear of contradiction, that there are less untutored inhabitants in the United States as compared with any of the nations of Europe, population, of course, equalized. The laborer is esteemed and respected according to his individual worth, and if he or his descendants have the necessary qualifications, they may aspire and fill any office, within the gift of the American people.

I repeat it, nations, like men, fall when they fail to observe the teachings and commands of divinity. One of the striking features of the ancient Persians was the excellence of the free consent of the governed. Some permitted to answer the charges preferred against them, and if they proved themselves innocent, the penalties they would have had to suffer were inflicted upon their accusers. Persons of official positions, found guilty of bribery or of other crimes were condemned to death. When a judge was convicted of receiving a bribe, he was instantly executed and his skin was fastened to the chair he had occupied, to remind his successor of the fearful consequences of deviating from the path of honesty and virtue.

I think such laws would improve the morals of those who never practice what they preach."

July, 1881.

FIFTY-SEVEN.

Letter from Little Dixie.

Dear friends, now that the long warm summer days have overtaken us, it is but natural that a spirit of listlessness should creep upon us. Such being the case, I have thought there might be room for me in the spacious parlor of the Home Circle.

Mr. Lackland, you are splendid in description; any compliment paid my friend Daisy, is duly appreciated by me, in fact, I doubt if your admiration for her equals mine. Let me thank you for your appropriate remarks in regard to criticism. We juvenile members are afraid to venture on an original idea since "our friend received the reprimand for extending" a little charity to the unfortunate Byron.

It seems the members of the Home Circle cannot agree upon a subject for debate. I will offer a simple one which all may discuss. Question: Do parents, or teachers, exercise the greater influence in forming the character of the young?

Miss Nina, accept my heart's best wishes for your future happiness. May the cup of fate contain but few bitter draughts for you to drain; and may your life boat float tranquilly down the stream of time until it shall reach the broad, deep ocean of a happy eternity.

Widower, may the choice of your love ever be the queen of your heart; and may you always be found worshipping at her alone—of earthly shrines.

And now I would ask, who'll be the next at Hymen's altar? Daisy, I do believe you know; dare you tell us?

Glillie Lee, where are you hiding this warm weather? Let us hear from you again. I am sure that was a very pretty compliment Paulus paid to woman; and I give you credit for making him speak it out.

Is This Government on the Road to Decay?

This question is one of perpetual importance, and its discussion will lead to good results. For the sake of mere argument, in so weighty a matter, I would not take the side I believed to be untrue. It is said that David Hume became an infidel in hunting up arguments to sustain his side of a question on the subject of infidelity. In the discussion of the retrogression of the world, Walnut took the position that we are superior to the ancients. It occurs to me that the arguments in said discussion are also arguments on Walnut's question. Those arguments at least incidentally bear on the present subject.

If people are born into the world to act a certain part in the drama of life, from which part they can no more escape than they can escape death; or if men are tied down to a wheel, whose revolution brings them little or much, good or ill, then with the flight of a few decades, or at the turn of a wheel, men are swept away and nations crumble. If this blind fate is the destiny of men, it is useless to inquire whether this government is decaying. If it is, as Epicurus taught, a cradle here, a grave yonder and nothing more, then the neglect of duty and the rush for pleasure will soon mark us as a doomed nation.

But if people are born into life unfettered by predestination, i. e., with free wills, and have the ordering of their parts in life's drama; and if they grasp and control to a reasonable degree the wheel of their fortunes, then they may build a system of government that will endure through all time. If the doctrine of revelation be true, and there is something beyond this life that will hold men to their duty and restrain them of vain temporary pleasures, it is possible to construct a lasting form of government.

There are two sides to man's nature, the disposition to good, and the disposition to evil. As the one or the other preponderates, so his life will be for good or for evil. Our government derives its power from the people, and like the people, will be tinted with good or with evil. The stream never rises higher than its source, and the stream will be like its source, clear or muddy. That there are evil agencies gnawing at our government, none will deny. But I believe upon examination that the honesty, the patriotism, and the good sense of the people will more than offset the evil influences.

Walnut only presented a one-sided view. He spoke of the baneful effects of intemperance, but failed to mention the beneficial effects of sobriety, and it is apparent that a great proportion of our population is sober people. He alluded to the large number of paupers sent here from Europe, but said nothing of the tolling, thrifty class coming of their own accord. If this latter class of people believed that the United States is on a downward career, they would never immigrate hither. This large immigration—and the number is greater during the past year than ever before—is a strong symptom of the healthy condition of our country. The majority of the immigrants are from England and Germany, and they are by no means of the lower orders of society, but they come to us well educated and possessed of considerable wealth. They will help to strengthen and perpetuate our institutions, rather than weaken and destroy them.

Walnut noticed the tariff laws, and made a statement that all nations who follow the commercial policy of England will be ruined. This is no argument, for while we might possibly lose money in engaging in free trade and competing with England for carrying the world's commerce, yet we couldn't lose enough money to it to ruin us as a nation. The loss would be less than our surplus of supplies, and we would still be on the road to prosperity. America has, in times past, shown her naval superiority over England, and to-day if she will rouse herself to the task, she can cope successfully with any nation on earth, by land or by sea. Here we have the finest quality of ship timber and skilled mechanics. Capital is not wanting, and it is a mistake to stand back and let England, or any other country, fill her pockets from our abundance. But surely Walnut does not mean to assert that we are on the verge of financial ruin or anywhere near it. It is well known to the country that the farmers' granaries and pocketbooks have grown plenteous in the past few years. Capitalists have enjoyed a prosperous season. Railroad, mining and manufacturing investments have returned a handsome profit to investors. Every kind of business has paid well. Walnut seems to favor protective tariff—why, he did not specify. As a matter of business, why should we pay a home manufacturer a bonus in order to foster a monopoly? Suppose that Monsieur X conceives the notion of erecting a corner in wooden nutmegs, but finds the cost of production greater than what the genuine article can be purchased at. In such a case Monsieur X says to Uncle Sam, "Protect me, sir; shut off this foreign competition and give me the monopoly in nutmegs." Suppose Uncle Sam passes the protective tariff, what is the result? First, a drainage of the people's pocket-

ets; secondly, depriving the United States of revenue; and thirdly, the encouragement of dishonest people in nefarious business, such as smuggling. This is protection, and whom does it protect? The picture is too plain to need interpretation.

Desecration of the Sabbath was alluded to in Walnut's article. Now, I submit that the churches are better patronized on that day than all other institutions together in this country. Look at our Sabbath schools. They are well filled with bright, intelligent children and youths. True, parents are not as attentive to the matter of sending their children to Sunday school as they should be. We all fall short of performing our whole duty sometimes. But when we go to count up how many parents are criminally careless of their children's moral and religious training, the number is not interestingly insignificant. Not only are the Sunday school services seldom neglected. The most enlightened men of our country are those who are leading the religious sentiment. In this respect we differ from the Greeks and Romans. It is said that Pericles never made a speech without first invoking the aid and blessings of the gods, yet Pericles had no faith in the Greek religion. Julius Caesar was an avowed disbeliever in the Roman creed, but he solicited and obtained the highest religious office. He was chosen to be Pontifex Maximus—Pope of Rome. The ministry of that age was not infested with such infidel hypocrites as Pericles and Caesar were.

Cicero thought that the Roman commonwealth ought to be perpetual. Surely we may indulge the same hope in regard to America, and upon stronger grounds. The United States ought to be like our bodies, constantly sloughing off the effete matter and renewing with fresher and purer material—retaining, however, the old framework.

Greece and Rome petted and spoiled their citizens. Greece gave her people large subsidies, and Rome did likewise. This was more corrupting than anything else and brought about their downfall. They believed themselves able to hold all the world in subjugation, and they denied the rest of the world the right to suffrage. While Rome's vast territory proved her weakness, our wide domain will prove to be our strength. In this country a man cannot murder his fellows and hold a place in society. In Rome this thing was done with impunity. The assassin was always ready with poison or dagger, and if the courts examined into the case, a little money could easily buy them into silence. In truth, to read the record of crime in that day is enough to convince any one of the fact that we are not traveling the same road.

The poet says:

"The world is a sepulcher of flowers,
Whose vitalizing mold,
Through boundless transmutation towers,
In green and gold."

The earth we inhabit has been brought by successive changes from a state of chaos to its present existence, and these changes have always given birth to a higher order of beings. So that what has seemed death and decay was in reality but the prelude to a higher and more perfect life. It may be so with governments. I have enough faith in the constitution to believe it immortal.

PAULUS.

Letter from Clodhopper.

Having given the victors of Amity ample time to digest my letter of June 2d (which, by the way, was written last winter), I herewith pen another. But first let me make a few observations on Bon Ami's flippant remarks about Homer, in which he attempts to detract from the Greek literature. Unfortunately, he admits that "it is a great pity that profound modern critics are Greek poets." It is indeed humiliating to think that the inferior Greek poet is superior to our greatest modern critics. S. G. Goodrich says: "Homer is styled the father of epic poetry; and he remains, to this day, acknowledged as the prince of epic poets. His poems were the principal foundation of the whole literature of the Greeks." * * * The most famous Greek orators were Demosthenes, Isocrates, Lysias, Isaeus, Aeschines. The period in which they flourished stands pre-eminent in the history of human eloquence, and has transmitted to the present age such splendid monuments of genius as excite the wonder and admiration of mankind"—Bon Ami and a few vain vaunters excepted. Chambers' encyclopedia reads: "The whole excellences of Homer have not yet been exhibited in any one of the notable English translations, nor is such a combination perhaps possible." The historians doubt if such a combination is possible. Why? Because they are inferior to the Greek language is superior to our own. Whoever detracts from Homer's reputation, must detract from the wise and good of all nations and ages since Homer's day. I used to think that Bon Ami had some regard for history. When we see a long line of historians all pointing in a certain direction, we know it indicates something. Bon Ami was doubtless sincere when he advised the readers of the Circle not to read Homer for fear they would be unfavorably impressed. The truth is the modern mind has not the capacity (the greatest intellects excepted) to comprehend and appreciate the excellencies of the great Greek poet. So much for mental retrogression. Confront it, you can. Space forbids that I should say much about morality.

Let us contrast our hospitality with that of the Arabians, who have degenerated to roaming bands of robbers. They feared not to entertain strangers. "The traveler who sought his protection, or confided in his honor, was entertained without inquiry, or the hope of remuneration. He regarded him not merely as a guest, but as a member of his own family. He would defend him at the risk of his own life, and dismiss him, after the enjoyment of needful repose, with blessings, perhaps with gifts. His word, once pledged, was a sure and inviolable guarantee. Their friendly treatment of strangers was not confined to the camp or tent. On every hill the fires of hospitality nightly blazed, to conduct the wayfarer to a

place of safety and repose. It was a matter of glory and rivalry to surpass each other in the number and extent of these friendly tokens. 'Thy fires,' says the Arabian poet, 'are kindled, after sunset, in every valley. The weary traveler spies these red signals afar through the obscure night.'

Would such generosity be possible at present? If one were so mad as to adopt that ancient hospitality, in twelve months how much property could he call his own? Surely he would be eaten up. Yet they managed to live, and gain my admiration. 'Tis true some of us are partially liberal (it they were really so) to a few favoring friends, but the "tramp" is indignantly ordered from the door. A neighbor of ours, from one of the States of New England, stated that the people in his neighborhood would keep a record of every trifling expense which would result from accommodating visitors, and annually balance their accounts. Without considering the robbing of the Knights Templars at Chicago, or Dr. Talmage's testimony that Christianity is dead, is this the moral progression of which we boast?

CLODHOOPER.

Henry County, Mo.

Letter from Sol Baxter.

Say, Colonel, going to make a gal of me, ain't you? well, if you did it I won't care, 'cause you'd make me young and pretty; but that cowlblamed 'devil' would leave me as I am, oh, so ugly! and I'd have to pad, and paint, and powder, wear bangs, and cort-plaster, and then pass at a discount. Not much he don't. I tell you my name is Sol, not Sal; they call me Solomon for short.

Bon Ami don't you and Anon remind yourselves of the Devil reproving sin, when you go to criticizing?

No wonder that "type" took a dog along that wouldn't work well. He didn't go after birds anyhow; it was the deer (the honey deer) that he was after. Better take him, Nina, and you'll get the gun to boot. I've got a heap of tender mercy, Nina, and I'm going to be your uncle, if you'll let me; I'll be Twonnet's brother, too—won't that be nice?

Timothy needn't mind about reading his love letters over, there isn't any danger of anybody having him.

I'm in earnest about that Jeep year boom. I want a nice young lady to plant her battery on me. Don't use much powder tho'.

SOL BAXTER.

TABLE ETIQUETTE.

There are a great many people who behave well otherwise, but at table they do things that, if not absolutely outrageous and ensemble, are at least pianissimo and sine die.

It is with a view to elevating the popular taste and etherealizing, so to speak, the manners and customs of our readers, that we give below a few hints upon table etiquette.

If by writing an article of this kind we can induce one man who now wipes his hands on the table cloth to come up and take higher ground and wipe them on his pants, we shall feel amply repaid.

If you can not accept an invitation to dinner, do not write your regrets on the back of a pool check with a blue pencil. This is now regarded as rischiot.

A simple note to your host informing him that your washerwoman refuses to relent, is sufficient.

On seating yourself at the table, draw off your gloves and put them in your lap under your napkin. Do not put them in the gravy, as it would ruin the gloves and cast a gloom over the gravy. If you have just cleaned your gloves with benzine, you might leave them out in the front yard.

If you happen to drop gravy on your knife blade, back near the handle, do not run the blade down your throat to remove the gravy, as it might injure your epiglottis, and it is not considered esmopolitan, anyway.

When you are at dinner, do not take up a raw oyster on your fork and playfully ask your host if it is dead. Remarks about death at dinner are in very poor taste.

Pears should be held by the stem and gently but firmly—not as though you were skinning a dead horse. It is not bon ton.

Oranges are held on a fork while being peeled, and the facetious style of squirting the juice into the eyes of your hostess is now au revoir.

Stones in cherries or other fruit should not be placed upon the table cloth, but slid quietly unostentatiously into the pocket of your neighbor, or noiselessly tossed under the table.

If you strike a worm in your fruit, do not call attention to it by mashing it with a nut-cracker. This is not only uncouth, but it is regarded in the best society as blazé and exceeding vice versa.

Macaroni should be cut into short pieces and eaten with an even graceful motion, not absorbed by the yard.

In drinking wine, when you get to the bottom of the glass do not throw your head back and draw in your breath like the exhaust of a bath tub in order to get the last drop, as it engenders a feeling of the most depressing melancholy among the guests.

After eating a considerable amount do not rise and unbuckle your vest strap in order to get more room, as it is exceedingly unfaüt and dishabille.

If by mistake you drink out of your finger-bowl, laugh heartily and make some facetious remark which will change the course of conversation and renew the friendly feeling among the members of the party.

Ladies should take but one glass of wine at dinner. Otherwise there might be difficulty in steering the male portion of the procession home.

Do not make remarks about the word "company" have eaten. If the lady who is your company at the table, whether she be your wife or the wife of some one else, should eat quite heartily, do not offer to pay your host

for his loss, or say to her "Great Scott! I hope you will not kill yourself because you have an opportunity," but be polite and gentlemanly, even though the food supply be cut off for a week.

If one of the gentlemen should drop a raw oyster in his bosom, and he should have trouble in fishing it out, do not make facetious remarks about it, but assist him to find it, laughing heartily all the time.—Boomerang.

Mothers As Doctors.

Practical mothers learn much by their experience with the little bodies intrusted to their care. Some of the common sense facts in the physical culture of these little ones known to the more experienced mothers may not come amiss to children. The foundation must be well laid to insure healthy and happy children. The child must be well aired, well fed and well bathed. By a thorough understanding much of the physical, mental and moral suffering in life would be avoided by parent as well as child. If a healthy child (and a delicate one proportionately) is regularly put to bed about dusk, in a quiet well-ventilated or even cold room, after a supper of plain food, it will naturally awake at daybreak, good-natured, with a keen appetite for a wholesome breakfast. Nutritious, plain food, at regular hours, with no candy or stimulants, and free bathing, help the system to ward off many prevalent children's ailments and to bear with much less danger the few that must necessarily come to the majority of little ones. The child that is just given a little confectionary, or any unsuitable food, then rocked to sleep should cause no surprise at waking peevish and feverish. It is simply the result of imaginary affection and want of knowledge on the part of the one in charge. It will certainly pay in the end to teach diligently for the cause when a little child is proverbially cross.

Rest Needed.

Head-workers need more rest than hand-workers. Three hours of hard brain work destroy more nervous tissue and cause a greater abstraction of phosphates from the system, than an ordinary day's work at mere mechanical labor. Above everything else brain-workers need sleep, early sleep and late sleep and enough in the middle to feel "real stupid" at the end of it. Nothing rests the brain and the whole working system like it. Narcotic stupidity is not the thing referred to, though in emergencies this may perhaps be had recourse to as medicine—but the quiet, reposeful readjustment of the nervous conditions, and the recharging with vital force of the nerve batteries, the contacts not yet closed the galvanic currents not yet set in motion, but only filling up the system with a blind, diffused feeling of healthy sensations and reserved efficiency.—Lippincott's.

To cure ague, take a pint of good pure whiskey, and put it in a quart-bottle. Then get eight lemons and press the juice out of them, putting the same into the whiskey. Now you have a remedy that is worth more than all your quinine and other bitter stuff which is so hard to take. Give a teaspoonful or more, according to age, three or four times a day. It is easy to take, especially if you add a cupful of white sugar to the preparation. It worked like a charm with us.

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